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TODAY:
SPORTS

In Seoul, Defector Warns of War

By Kevin Sullivan
Washington Post Service

SEOUL — The highest-ranking defector in North Korean history arrived in Seoul on Sunday, shouting "Hooray!" for his freedom but warning that the North's increasingly desperate Communist leaders were dangerously close to launching a second Korean War.

Amid intense security and fears of assassination attempts by North Korean agents, Hwang Jang Yop, apparently wearing a bulletproof vest, and an aide who defected with him raised their arms and shouted as they stepped off a chartered flight from the Philippines at a military air base near Seoul.

Looking calm and serious, Mr. Hwang, 74, who for decades was North Korea's leading ideologue and political

philosopher, issued an emotional condemnation of his former government in the first public appearance he has made since he walked into the South Korean consulate in Beijing on Feb. 12 and asked for asylum.

"It is obvious why the North Korean government abandons starving people, refuses reforms and does its utmost to prepare for a war," Mr. Hwang said. "It seems to believe its only choice is to use the military forces it has been preparing for decades."

Mr. Hwang said he left North Korea because there was "no hope left" for the Stalinist regime he helped to create and because he "could not go against the order of my conscience."

He left behind a family believed to face prison camps or

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Mr. Hwang: 'No hope' in North.

No Charges Levied Against Netanyahu

But Key Ally May Be Indicted; Peres Demands New Elections

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

JERUSALEM — Israeli prosecutors announced Sunday their decision not to charge Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in a corruption scandal, saying police recommendations to indict him were based on insufficient evidence.

But the government's future hung in the balance, as Mr. Netanyahu waited to see how coalition partners would react to the affair, including a recommendation to indict a key political ally, Aryeh Deri.

Responding to the prosecutors, Mr. Netanyahu admitted mistakes and vowed to clean up the process of wheeling and dealing that has surrounded appointments of senior officials.

"The bottom line is this: I committed no crime, and the attorney general confirmed this," Mr. Netanyahu said in a televised address to the nation.

"It's clear to me today that we must improve the process of choosing senior officials," he said. "But there is a big difference between a mistake and a crime."

"I will learn the lessons and implement them," he added.

Lashing out at the media and the opposition, he said: "There are people who do not like me, who do not like me in particular. And they want to erode my legitimacy as the prime minister."

He added: "But at base the attacks against me come from one central motive: an attempt to overthrow the government because of our opponents' fundamental disagreement with our path."

"They refuse to accept the fact that the people voted for us and not for them. They refuse to accept the fact that we are building on Har Homa, they refuse to accept our efforts to protect the unity of Jerusalem, they refuse to accept our vigorous opposition to a Palestinian state. They refuse to accept that we are guarding the Golan and not coming down from it," Mr. Netanyahu said.

Shimon Peres, leader of the opposition Labor Party, called for Mr. Netanyahu's resignation.

"There's not enough evidence to put the prime minister on trial, but there is enough evidence to place the prime minister again before the judgment of the people," Mr. Peres said.

Defeated by Mr. Netanyahu in an election last May, Mr. Peres added: "In my view for the sake of the country, for the sake of the law, for the sake of the respect of the country's sons and citizens, the prime minister must stand up,

resign and go. The public must hold new elections."

In announcing the decision, Attorney General Elyakim Rubinstein said: "After weighing the evidence we have concluded that we don't have sufficient proof to charge the prime minister."

He said Mr. Deri, of the ultra-Orthodox Shas party, could eventually be charged with fraud, breach of trust, extortion and obstruction of justice in connection with the short-lived appointment in January of Roni Bar-On, an activist in Mr. Netanyahu's Likud party, as attorney general.

Israel's Channel One television had said that Mr. Deri promised that in return for Mr. Bar-On's appointment, his party would support Mr. Netanyahu's deal with the Palestinians to pull Israeli troops from the West Bank town of Hebron.

Prosecutors decided to close the file on Mr. Netanyahu, Mr. Bar-On and Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi. Mr. Rubinstein said Mr. Deri would have a chance to challenge the charges in a hearing with prosecutors.

The investigation would continue against Mr. Netanyahu's chief of staff, Avigdor Lieberman, and a Likud booster, David Appel.

The television report had alleged that Mr. Deri, already embroiled in a corruption trial, coerced the Likud-led government to appoint Mr. Bar-On, who would then offer him a plea bargain. Mr. Bar-On quit 12 hours after taking office amid an outcry that he was unqualified.

Labor Party officials said that Mr. Netanyahu would find it difficult to rule with conviction in the wake of the criticism of his conduct.

"Every honest person must ask himself if he accepts the moral authority of a man who is not on trial only because of insufficient evidence," said Ehud Barak, the leading candidate to be the next Labor Party leader.

"I fear the prime minister will find it very difficult to function."

Yossi Sarid, head of the liberal Meretz Party, said he would appeal to the Supreme Court to overturn the prosecutors' decision and force Mr. Netanyahu's indictment.

Mr. Netanyahu could still face a rebellion from cabinet ministers who could topple his coalition government if the findings raised serious questions about his integrity. The scandal has cast a shadow over Middle East peacemaking, already in crisis because of a start on a settlement in Arab East Jerusalem. (Reuters, AP)

Voters Gear For Early Campaign In France

By Craig R. Whitney
New York Times Service

PARIS — President Jacques Chirac, who had long resisted calling a surprise election for late May or early June, is widely expected to reverse himself and announce a dissolution of the French Parliament in a televised speech Monday night.

Throughout the four decades of the Fifth Republic, French presidents have usually made such moves only to resolve a grave political crisis. Mr. Chirac, silent about his intentions all weekend, apparently wants to try to forestall one, but he would be taking considerable risk if he goes ahead.

"If the political powers that be had any confidence in their political situation, they would wait a year," said Lionel Jospin, a Socialist who could become prime minister if the opposition won, in a speech Sunday night. "It looks likely that there will be a dissolution."

Parliamentary elections would not normally be held until next spring, and with Mr. Chirac's prime minister, Alain Juppe, supported by a huge conservative majority of 477 out of the 577 seats in the National Assembly, there was no obvious necessity for an election now.

A decision by Mr. Chirac to go for a new election, despite odds that the majority would lose scores of seats even in the best foreseeable outcome, would be a gamble on several levels.

He is safe in the presidency until his term expires in 2002, but like Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany, he has staked his reputation on a common European currency to rival the dollar on world financial markets and drag France, Germany, and the rest of Europe out of the doldrums of double-digit unemployment.

But getting there, under the deficit-reduction rules Bonn has insisted on, will take huge cuts in government spending and the generous health care, retirement and other entitlements that both the French and the Germans have enjoyed since the end of World War II.

In France, Mr. Chirac and Mr. Juppe started trying to cut back at the end of 1995, bringing on a national public transportation strike that paralyzed the French economy until the government backed away from cuts in early retirement benefits for railroad workers.

Control over pension and health care expenditures were necessary, both men explained then, to bring the government deficit down to the level necessary to get France into the common European currency — 3 percent of the gross national product by the end of this year.

But with the French deficit still running at about 4 percent at the end of last year, according to European Union estimates, it will take more government austerity and spending cuts to get it down by the deadline.

Both the president and the prime minister have been deeply unpopular since the cutbacks and spending freezes began, their appeal eroded by currents of deep unhappiness with life in the modern global economy that have been running strong in France for most of this past winter.

Hospital interns, for instance, have just finished a five-week strike against plans for government health insurance caps on doctors' prescriptions.

Pilots and ground crews have been striking against merger plans and pay cuts at Air France Europe, which is

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For Leadership, India Turns to a Diplomat



Inder Gujral, a former foreign minister, receiving congratulations Sunday in New Delhi after he was picked as prime minister. President Shankar Dayal Sharma nominated him, ending a three-week crisis. Page 4.

Iran Girds in Gulf as U.S. Treads Water

By Elaine Sciolino
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — At a time when Iran is building up its military presence in the Gulf and again stands accused of sponsoring terrorism, the United States is struggling to develop a strategy for the region.

Such a strategy is particularly crucial after a ruling in a German court that implicated the Iranian leadership in the assassination of opponents. There has also been fragmentary evidence linking

Iran to a major suspect in the bomb attack in Saudi Arabia last June that killed 19 Americans.

Some military planners, U.S. diplomats in the region and experts outside government are increasingly concerned that as Saudi Arabia and Turkey, the United States' closest friends in the region, have become more politically vulnerable and potentially less reliable, the Clinton administration has not come up with long-term Gulf policy.

Recently, in a sign of the administration's uncertainty, the State Department decided not to issue an unclassified "white paper" on Iran's use of terrorism because it might unnecessarily antagonize European allies who have tried to change Tehran's behavior through engagement rather than isolation, senior administration officials said.

In a blunt critique of the Clinton administration in the latest issue of Foreign Affairs, Zbigniew Brzezinski and Brent Scowcroft, two former national

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What Will \$118 Million Buy You in Hong Kong?

2 Swell Houses in the World's Priciest Market

By Edward A. Gargan
New York Times Service

HONG KONG — If you like Carrara marble, moon-sized chandeliers, staircases fit for Olivia de Havilland, bathtubs that could float the Nimitz, a couple of real tiger-skin rugs and rooms you'd need a 6-iron to drive across, there's a house in Hong Kong you would love.

Its name? Genesis. And you could have had it last month if you had just written a check for \$70 million.

If that had been a bit of a strain, you might have wanted to take a peek at a fixer-upper that is just a quick putt of the Rolle down the road. For only \$48.7 million, you could have picked up a Chinese baroque tile-roofed and up a Chinese baroque tile-roofed and a walled home with an outdoor kidney-shaped pool, a dining table that seats 19 people, 10 bedrooms and a Hilton's worth of bedrooms.

The house, christened Skyhigh by a previous owner, also commands the only 360-degree view of Hong Kong from Victoria Peak, the crest of Hong Kong Island.

But even in a place where \$10,000-a-month apartments are sometimes regarded as bargains, and where people gladly fork over \$17,500 for small boxes of delicate saliva-thread swallows' nests used in fancy soups, the

two houses that sold for a total of \$118.7 million left jaws hanging. Even more startling, both houses were snared by a man few had heard of: Wong Yuk Kwan, managing director of an upstart property company called Pearl Oriental.

"Hong Kong is a very strange city," mused Mr. Wong, a stem of a man who abruptly leans forward when he talks, as if there's no deal he can't make. "Hong Kong property," he said with deadpan understatement, "is completely different from the United States or Europe."

Indeed, nowhere else on earth is housing so expensive. Japan used to be

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HISTORIC VISIT — The Sheng Da, a Chinese container ship, docked at the Taiwan port of Kaohsiung, the first time a mainland vessel has called on the island since the civil war. On Sunday, a second freighter arrived and, following shipping practice, flew the Taiwan flag. Page 11.

First Chinese Troops Set to Arrive in Colony

HONG KONG — A page of history is set to turn when Chinese troops enter Hong Kong on Monday to prepare for the arrival of the People's Liberation Army after Britain marches out of the territory in July.

The 40-member advance party, led by Major General Zhou Borong, will arrive in the colony on Queen Elizabeth's birthday. They will drive into

Hong Kong from China's Shenzhen region in full uniform but unarmed.

The advance guard will be the first Chinese troops ever to be stationed on Hong Kong island. Up to 10,000 Chinese Army troops will form the Hong Kong garrison after Britain returns its last Asian colony to Communist-ruled China at midnight on June 30.

A total of 200 advance troops are

expected to arrive before the handover. By that day, Britain will have phased out its garrison forces, which once numbered 10,000 in the territory.

The last of the famed "Black Watch" Highlanders regiment will depart just after the midnight flag change.

"This is an historic event," Edward

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AGENDA

Anti-Communists Win in Bulgaria

Bulgaria's anti-Communist coalition has won a decisive victory in the country's parliamentary elections.

The electoral commission said that the Union of Democratic Forces of President Petar Stoyanov and its coalition allies had won 52 percent of the votes cast, which would give them 136 or 137 seats in the 240-member Parliament. This means they could rule without allies who might be restive about the stiff terms set by international lending institutions for bailing out Bulgaria.

The ruling Socialists were driven from office in February by month-long demonstrations that forced the appointment of a caretaker government. They are projected to have won 57 seats in the weekend elections, a sharp decline. Page 5.

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The IHT on-line <http://www.ihon.com>

Church Lets More Catholics Pretend They Never Tied the Knot

By Laurie Goodstein
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The marriage tribunal was in session in the Catholic Diocese of Arlington, Virginia. Three priests sat at a large table, on which they placed a tape recorder. One took notes. A 30-year-old divorced social worker seeking an annulment sat before them, answering questions about her former marriage, her parents' marriage, her siblings' marriages, her childhood, her dating his-

tory, her sexual habits, her work habits, her drinking habits, and why her "union" had not produced any children.

"I felt like I was under an inquisition," the woman said last week, requesting anonymity because she is awaiting a decision from the priests. "After leaving that interview I almost said, forget it. It was just really a creepy feeling. I felt invasive. I thought, who were these people to be judging me?"

More and more Roman Catholics are daring to ask aloud these days whether

the annulment process is honest, fair or even necessary. Annulment is a ruling by a church tribunal that a couple's marriage was never actually valid under church law, raising emotional concerns for some about their family's integrity.

For every loyal Catholic who finds the process healing and helpful, there seems to be another who finds it painful and patronizing. Nine out of 10 divorcing Catholics simply ignore the process, even though those who remarry outside the church are not permitted to

go to confession or receive Holy Communion.

Catholic annulment has been thrown into the spotlight by the former wives of two Democratic lawmakers from Massachusetts, Representative Joseph Kennedy II and Senator John Kerry. Both women have challenged the annulment efforts of their prominent former husbands.

These high-profile appeals have opened a window on what is a mostly modern, largely American and often

misunderstood phenomenon in the Catholic Church. Before 1910, perhaps 100 annulment cases had been considered anywhere in the world, Catholic scholars say. In 1968, 450 were granted, and rumor spread that they were reserved for the well-known and well-heeled.

Now annulments are an increasingly accepted part of Catholic life in this country, for both the wealthy and the working class. In the United States,

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Newstand Prices			
Andorra	10.00 FF	Morocco	18 Dh
Antilles	12.50 FF	Qatar	10.00 Rials
Cameroon	1.800 CFA	Réunion	12.50 FF
Egypt	EC 5.50	Saudi Arabia	10.00 R.
France	10.00 FF	Senegal	1.100 CFA
Gabon	1100 CFA	Spain	225 PTAS
Italy	2,800 Lire	Tunisia	1.250 Din
Ivory Coast	1.250 CFA	U.A.E.	10.00 Dirh
Jordan	1.250 JD	U.S. Mil (Eur.)	\$1.20
Lebanon	11.300		

Scourge of South China Sea / New Breed of Predators

Pirates Find Haven in Small Chinese Port

By Seth Faison
New York Times Service

BEIHAI, China — When a band of 30 armed pirates attacked a cargo ship in the South China Sea late one night in September 1995, they pistol-whipped and shackled the 23 crewmen before dumping them overboard near the south coast of Vietnam.

Rather than taking the ship to their native Indonesia, to nearby Vietnam or even to one of the deserted islands that dot the area in between, the pirates steered the ship and its \$5 million sugar cargo several hundred miles north to this sleepy-looking fishing port, in China.

Before the booty could be unloaded and sold to a prearranged Chinese buyer, however, international maritime officials discovered the ship. They demanded that Chinese authorities prosecute the 14 pirates still on board and return the cargo and ship to their owners.

In their subsequent investigation it became clear to the maritime officials that the pirates chose Beihai for its pliable local government and its thriving market.

Now, nearly 20 months later, Chinese public security officials still refuse to release the cargo or the ship, a 450-foot (137-meter) freighter called the Anna Sierra. Worse, maritime officials say, the Chinese freed the 14 pirates late last year without filing charges.

Unlike the sword-brandishing, eye-patch-wearing pirates of seafaring lore, today's pirates typically use speedboats and handguns to ambush and then board small and medium-size ships, since big tankers are hard to overtake.

With the number of incidents of piracy rising, maritime officials say, the South China Sea is becoming as lawless as it was when Vietnamese "boat people" were preyed upon 20 years ago.

A critical new element in Asian piracy is that to sell their stolen cargo, pirates are now choosing to go to small ports in southern China, where the complicity of local officials and the eagerness of traders offer safe haven. Not long ago China was the last place a pirate would go; now it is often the first.

"The pirates know that if they come into a Chinese port, they can get cooperation," said Potengul Mukundan, director of the International Maritime Bureau, an arm of the London-based International Chamber of Commerce.

"What shocks me about this case is that it's extremely rare to catch the pirates on board. And yet the Chinese would do nothing, and let them go."

CHINA'S LEADERS often stress their determination to become active participants in the world community. If they are learning to cooperate on some issues like trade and nuclear nonproliferation, law enforcement is where they fail most miserably.

Chiming in with maritime officials like Mr. Mukundan, U.S. and other law-enforcement officials routinely express frustration that their Chinese counterparts are so inflexible and secretive about drug and other cross-border crimes that efforts to cooperate rarely achieve anything, with a few minor exceptions in immigrant-smuggling cases.

"We send faxes, we call on the phone, and it's always 'We're not too clear,'" said an American official who asked Chinese authorities for help on a high-volume heroin-smuggling case last year.

"I assume it's because they don't want anyone in to see the corruption going on. But the truth is, we simply don't know."

It is hard to measure piracy accurately, because many incidents go unreported, as they did 100 years ago. Yet the International Maritime Bureau recorded 224 incidents of piracy worldwide in 1996, up from 170 in 1995, the majority in or near the South China Sea.

Mr. Mukundan said more pirated ships seem to be docking in Chinese ports, though he did not know exactly how many.

In Beihai's port, where old wooden fishing vessels unload their catch on the backs of laborers at a muddy shore, the occasional arrival of pirated ships is common knowledge.



Beihai and other small ports in southern China have become refuges for pirates, who benefit from the complicity of local officials and the eagerness of traders. With the number of incidents of piracy rising, the South China Sea is becoming as lawless as it was when Vietnamese "boat people" were preyed upon 20 years ago.

At a run-down boatyard a few miles down the coast, two workmen repairing old vessels said their pirated ships had been brought there for paint jobs in the past, once their cargoes were unloaded and sold.

As for the three vessels there now, being repaired in garish colors that covered the original names on bow and stern, the workmen said they did not know where the ships had come from, whether they were pirated or where they were headed next.

Not far from the boatyard, out of public view, the Anna Sierra remains beached. The ship's Cypriot owner gave up trying to recover it after sending a ship captain who waited in Beihai nine months for a hearing from Chinese officials, and never got it.

The owner of the cargo, Metals & Minerals Trading Co. of New Delhi, is still pressing its case. But international investigators are perplexed at the stock response from local officials that an investigation is still under way.

"They already let all the pirates go, so what are they investigating?" asked Captain Jayant Abhyankar, a maritime bureau investigator who located the ship in Beihai shortly after it arrived. "I don't think they are investigating, because they surely would have asked for our help. We have a lot of information about the pirates."

Beihai public security and port officials have denied wrongdoing, but declined to discuss the case, saying it became diplomatically sensitive when the Indian and Indonesian governments each made representations, one for the cargo owner, the other for the pirates who were in custody.

A public security officer, while acknowledging that there was much opportunity for corruption in Beihai, argued that actual cash payoffs were rare.

Many drug smugglers try to entice officers to cooperate with them, said Shu Yifeng, an officer in the port's border guard. "But very few officers ever do, because it goes against the interests of our nation. Plus, if you get caught, you'll be executed."

Several residents said, however, that even for a city along China's southern coast, where officials were known for ignoring directives from above, Beihai was plagued by rampant corruption.

JUST LAST month, the public security chief was replaced by a new man, Li Shangjun, who publicly pledged to "rectify" the local police force.

One of several measures he announced was a new rule that police officers wear uniforms while on duty, a small indication of how lax they had become.

There is a new coordination in the Beihai Public Security Bureau, not seen in years, announced The Coastal Times, a local newspaper. "Police officers now wear uniforms during work hours. Residents can feel more secure about the public security situation."

Changes or not, Captain Abhyankar said that the cargo owners were now being told by Beihai public security officials that they would eventually need a cash payment of \$350,000 to cover the cost of docking the Anna Sierra.

In 1994, alarmed that a number of attacks on ships in the South China Sea were actually made by Chinese naval or customs officials, the head of the UN International Maritime Organization traveled to Beijing to express his concern.

Chinese officials conceded to the UN representative, Admiral Thimos Mitropoulos, that rogue naval and customs officers in southern China were responsible for some incidents, explaining that a new policy encouraged naval and customs officers to pursue smugglers aggressively by allowing them to keep a portion of confiscated goods.

When it became clear that coast guard officers were actually veering well into international waters to look for "smugglers," Beijing reined them in, and the number of such attacks declined.

But the pirates' use of ports like Beihai may be harder to control.

"As long as pirates know they can find a safe haven, they will be a menace to all shippers," said Eric Ellen, executive director of the International Chamber of Commerce's Commercial Crime Services in London.

"China has to play its role, but so far it isn't doing it."

In Zaire, a Test of Wills To Decide Nation's Fate

By Lynne Duke
Washington Post Service

KINSHASA, Zaire — Laurent Kabila's arrival in Kinshasa is seen by many here as a foregone conclusion. His rebel forces have seized half of Zaire's vast territory in only six months, including its mineral-rich region. They have routed the army of President Mobutu Sese Seko at every engagement.

The rebels' goal — Marshal Mobutu's ouster — is popular among many Zairians who have grown weary

NEWS ANALYSIS

of the president's unfulfilled promises and of the 32 years he has spent leading Zaire into punishing poverty.

Mr. Kabila holds all these strategic cards, but in the battle for Zaire, Marshal Mobutu still stands in his way. In the face of humiliating defeats, battered prestige and the shrinking size of his Central African domain, Marshal Mobutu hangs onto power here. "In such situations, an African would rather die than have people say he ran away," said Bemba Saolona, a businessman and Mobutu associate.

As for Mr. Kabila, his credibility is at stake as well. Having demanded Marshal Mobutu's ouster and fought his way through the country to get it, Mr. Kabila is held hostage by his aim and would lose face if he changed tack, said a political analyst, Francesca Bomboko.

Mr. Kabila and Marshal Mobutu are locked in an epic test of wills whose outcome will determine the fate of Africa's third-largest nation. Hanging in the balance is whether Zaire's 45 million people will finally get stability and an electoral voice in who their leader will be, or whether they face more years of chaos after the civil war.

With rebel forces still hundreds of miles away, the Kabila-Mobutu impasse preoccupies life here as the capital faces the instability of Marshal Mobutu's continuing rule and the fear of what will happen if Mr. Kabila pushes to the capital as he threatens.

Despite Mr. Kabila's strategic upper hand, the crisis shows no sign of abating. Seemingly positive developments on the peace front buoyed hopes this week that a face-to-face meeting between the two men could bring a solution. But even as each man agreed in principle to participate in the talks proposed by President Nelson Mandela of South Africa, they are miles apart in the agendas they say they are trying to serve.

Marshal Mobutu wants to discuss a transitional arrangement that would culminate in Zaire's long-promised elections. Mobutu Nzanga, the president's son, said Saturday that his father wanted to preside over that transition. Mr. Kabila, however, said he would meet his counterpart only for Marshal Mobutu to transfer power — not to negotiate a transition.

Mr. Kabila reiterated Saturday his pledge to march on Kinshasa, the capital. Marshal Mobutu hopes that will not happen, his son said, but "if they come, there will be a fight."

Surprisingly, the political, economic and military chaos has not sparked a violent explosion in the capital city. The army, which some had feared would mutiny and rampage because of Marshal Mobutu's weakened power, has largely kept cool. Opposition demonstrations took place last week without incident. Although people fear trouble, stockpile food and plot their safety in

case violence breaks out, they continue the business of daily life.

In part, this is because the affairs of the state have been far removed from the lives of most Zairians for many years. State institutions and the budget to support them have largely collapsed, and the state's ability to regulate daily life is almost nonexistent. Civil servants are paid sporadically. Few bureaucracies are staffed. The transport system has virtually collapsed, and electricity in this energy-rich nation comes and goes in many neighborhoods.

People watch the Kabila-Mobutu power struggle unfold as if it were a distant soap opera. "We talk about changing the head of state, but we have no state," said Francesca Bomboko, the political analyst.

Adding to this mix is the bombardment of the capital with rumors and speculation that are part of each side's campaign to win over the populace.

Mr. Kabila's claim is that his forces will march on Kinshasa in just a few weeks to complete Zaire's liberation. He finds fertile ground for his cause among the droves of Kinshasans who want Marshal Mobutu gone. Surveys show that Mr. Kabila is extremely popular here.

But they also reveal that Mr. Kabila is not a majority's electoral choice. That distinction is held by longtime opposition leader, Etienne Tshisekedi, who recently was ousted and placed under house arrest one week later. He has been temporarily sidelined by the Mobutu-Kabila fight, but his supporters have proved themselves a force to be reckoned with by either side.

Marshal Mobutu's camp claims that Mr. Kabila is not democratic and will attempt to impose his will on Zaire rather than allow it to hold elections. It is an ironic claim coming from Marshal Mobutu, who is widely believed to have been a primary force behind the stalling of Zaire's seven-year transition to democracy.

Although Mr. Kabila has said for several months that Zaire should hold elections, he has also said that his group would dominate any pre-election transitional arrangements. Paul Kabongo, Mr. Kabila's chief of security, said last month that the Zairian people were too politically uneducated to make an informed electoral choice.

U.S. to Evacuate Its Dependents

New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The State Department has ordered all dependents of U.S. Embassy personnel to leave Zaire because of the "uncertain political and security situation and the potential for unrest throughout the country."

In a statement, the department also urged U.S. private citizens in Zaire to leave quickly as well.

A State Department spokeswoman, Stephanie Eicher, said that the American dependents would be flown out of Kinshasa on commercial airlines Monday and that private citizens would be expected to arrange their own transportation.

"We hope this will reduce the embassy presence in Kinshasa," Ms. Eicher said, noting that the order followed an earlier advisory by the department that warned U.S. citizens against travel in Zaire, where rebels now control the eastern part of the country and sporadic unrest has spread to Kinshasa, the capital.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Unions Vow to Continue Strike at French Airlines

PARIS (AFP) — Unions representing workers for TAT and Air Liberté, the French-based British Airways subsidiaries, said Sunday their 12-day strike would continue and accused management of extending the conflict.

"The strike will go for four weeks if it has to," said the joint union spokesman, Jean Immatre.

Negotiations between unions and the airlines over wages and working conditions in the planned merger of the companies began Saturday night and will resume Monday. Airline officials said 65 percent of domestic flights over the weekend had taken off but warned that some flights could be canceled next week.

Image Change in Greece

ATHENS (AP) — As Greece's status as a tourist destination comes under pressure, the government is striving for a change of attitude — or at least a friendlier facade.

A publicity campaign on the eve of the main tourist season shows Greeks grinning from billboards. The message is that a smile is "good for your health and our economy."

Many indicators suggest the number of foreign visitors to Greece is declining. European Union fiscal rules have ended Greece's days as a bargain for foreigners and

there are complaints about price gouging and strikes that have stranded travelers.

Americans on the Move

NEW YORK (Reuters) — A booming U.S. economy and strong consumer confidence have helped fuel an explosion of wanderlust among Americans, according to tourism industry officials.

They predict record numbers of Americans will visit Europe and Japan this year. About 9.5 million Americans are expected to visit Europe in 1997, up from an estimated 9 million last year. About 646,000 Americans are expected to visit Japan this year, an increase of 10 percent from 1996.

This Week's Holidays

Banking and government offices will be closed or services curtailed in the following countries and their dependencies this week because of national and religious holidays:

MONDAY: Brazil, Jordan, Kuwait, Puerto Rico, Saudi Arabia, Turkey.

TUESDAY: Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka.

WEDNESDAY: Belarus, Turkey.

THURSDAY: Armenia, Iceland, Niger.

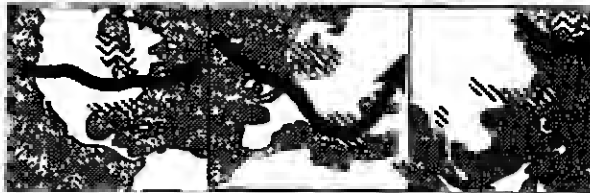
FRIDAY: Australia, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Ethiopia, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Macao, New Zealand, Portugal, Swaziland.

SATURDAY: Afghanistan, Tanzania.

Sources: J.P. Morgan, Reuters, Bloomberg.

WEATHER

Forecast for Tuesday through Thursday, as provided by AccuWeather.



North America
Rain from Texas to the Dry and mild across England and southern Appalachians Tuesday and Wednesday, but showers Tuesday and Wednesday. The Carolinas Wednesday. Sun in the Northeast with just-normal temperatures Tuesday and Wednesday. A cold rain in the Northeast and central and northern Europe Wednesday and Thursday. A cold rain in the Northeast and central and northern Europe Wednesday and Thursday. A cold rain in the Northeast and central and northern Europe Wednesday and Thursday.

City	Today	Low	High	Today	Low	High	Today	Low	High
Albany	74/84	67/77	84/94	74/84	67/77	84/94	74/84	67/77	84/94
Albuquerque	74/84	67/77	84/94	74/84	67/77	84/94	74/84	67/77	84/94
Alaska	74/84	67/77	84/94	74/84	67/77	84/94	74/84	67/77	84/94
Alaska	74/84	67/77	84/94	74/84	67/77	84/94	74/84	67/77	84/94
Alaska	74/84	67/77	84/94	74/84	67/77	84/94	74/84	67/77	84/94

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THE AMERICAS

New Navy Ship Recalls the Terrible Tale of the Fighting Sullivans

By Robert D. McFadden
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — On Nov. 13, 1942, the American light cruiser Juneau, limping away from one of the fiercest naval battles of World War II, was hit by a Japanese torpedo off Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands and went down with most of its crew of 700. But about 100 men, most of them badly wounded, some missing limbs, helped one another into three life rafts, hoping for rescue by other ships in the convoy.

The convoy commander, however, believing that survivors were unlikely and that other ships were imperiled by Japanese submarines, ordered an evacuation. For a week the seamen drifted and died: victims of exposure, thirst, delirium and savage shark attacks. Some reached a small island, but when help finally came, there were only 10 men alive.

It was one of the great naval tragedies of the Pacific Theater, and the decision not to return for survivors became one of the most debated of the war, spawning numerous articles, citations in naval histories and a 1994 book by Dan Kurzman, "Left to Die: The Tragedy of the USS Juneau."

Among the victims were five Sullivan brothers — George, Francis, Joseph, Madison and Albert — from Iowa who enlisted together after Pearl Harbor and won permission to serve on the same ship, despite a U.S. Navy policy against assigning brothers together. Four died in the sinking and the fifth was killed by sharks.

On Saturday, in a moving tribute to the brothers and other seamen of the Juneau, a new Navy destroyer was commissioned "The Sullivans" at a naval station on Staten Island, and two of the 10 men who survived the sinking of the Juneau were on hand to remember their comrades and recall their ordeal.

"My emotions are overflowing," said the 78-year-old retired Lieutenant Commander Lester Zook, of Eugene, Oregon, who was a 23-year-old seaman when the Juneau sank. "It's a tremendous feeling being here today. It revives

some unpleasant memories, but also some pleasant ones."

Joining the crowd of 6,700 on Stapleton Pier were Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Democrat of New York; Commander Gerard Roncolato, the skipper of The Sullivans, which is to be based in Mayport, Florida, near Jacksonville; and Kelly Ann Sullivan Loughren, a granddaughter of Albert Sullivan, the youngest of the brothers, who were the focus of the 1944 film "The Fighting Sullivans."

"It is a fitting circumstance that the destroyer, The Sullivans, is being commissioned here in New York Harbor," Mr. Moynihan said, "for it is here that those five brothers from Waterloo, Iowa, went aboard the cruiser Juneau as it was commissioned at the Brooklyn Navy Yard and sent on its long and faithful voyage."

The light cruiser that bore the name of Alaska's capital city was launched in 1941. After operating in the North Atlantic and Caribbean, it joined the Pacific fleet in August 1942 and was assigned over the next few months to task forces

operating with the aircraft carriers Wasp, Hornet and Enterprise.

After its guns brought down dozens of Japanese aircraft and helped sink several ships, Juneau took up a station on Nov. 12, 1942, as part of a protective screen around troop transports and cargo vessels unloading at the American landing beaches on Guadalcanal. It helped repulse 30 enemy torpedo bombers and was credited with six kills.

The next day a Japanese force of 20 ships attacked the Americans. Juneau helped sink a destroyer, but as the two forces slugged it out at close range, it was struck on the port side by a torpedo. Juneau was forced to withdraw.

Shortly after 11 A.M., a Japanese submarine, I-26, fired three torpedoes at the Juneau. The cruiser avoided two of them but was struck by the third on the port side amidships. It broke in two, witnesses said, and went down in 20 seconds. But as many as 100 members of its crew were hurled into the water and managed to inflate three life rafts.

Walter Sullivan, the former science writer for The New York Times, who was not related to the Sullivan brothers, was the communications officer on the destroyer Fletcher nearby.

He wrote of the affair: "When the smoke lifted from the sea, there was nothing to be seen where the Juneau had been except an oil slick. We wanted to go back and look for survivors, but the task force commander decided that, with submarines in the area hoping for a chance to torpedo others, we should all press onward."

Over the next seven days, Mr. Zook recalled, the survivors drifted in their rafts and died, many of them from wounds suffered in the sinking, others from shark attacks.

He remembered that George Sullivan, the oldest of the brothers, had swum from raft to raft in search of his kinsmen, and was killed by a shark.

Eventually five seamen in one raft reached a small island and were picked up by an amphibious plane. Five others were rescued from another raft.

FDR Monument Awakens New Dealers' Memories

By Francis X. Clines
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Mary Bain, the last of the original New Dealers still in government, sparked with amusement at the very idea of her president, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, ever resorting to the focus-group testing devices of modern politicians before approaching the nation with a fresh idea.

"No, heavens no," she gently laughed. "No, he led us. We didn't lead him."

With that, the 85-year-old chief of staff for Representative Sidney Yates, Democrat of Illinois, rested her case for why the Roosevelt administration might merit some of the attention it is about to get with the opening May 2 of the seven-acre (2.8-hectare) FDR Memorial here. The \$52 million monument will put the 32d president in the rarefied company of Washington, Lincoln and Jefferson.

"I don't need the memorial because he'll always be with me," said Ms. Bain, who ran the U.S. Employment Service in Rooseveltian hard times. She can recount the freshest memories of that president's commanding glance and of his endless demands for excellence. "But," she said, "the country needs the memorial."

The splendid pastoral memorial bordering the Tidal Basin will invite visitors' ruminations as they wander among four outdoor tableaux summoning the time of the four Roosevelt elections, from Depression breadline to wartime rubble.

Ms. Bain and the few other remaining New Deal pioneers who will attend the dedication ceremony already are in that rumination mode, savoring their president's memory and inevitably trying to imagine him in the present moment, in the current political wickets of Washington. For them, liberalism, good times and real Democrats are being memorialized as much as Roosevelt.

"Mr. Roosevelt would take no guff from these political people," Ms. Bain said in her Capitol office about a president considered a master politician and bold incumbent who did not shrink from controversy. "He would not have had a Dick Morris around him."

A memorial of sorts, as stunning to Ms. Bain and the other New Dealers as any of the new bas-reliefs and waterfall turnings on the Tidal Basin, was the dismantling by one of Roosevelt's Democratic successors, President Bill Clinton, of one of FDR's pillars of liberalism, the welfare subsidy program for the nation's poorest children.

"I think he caved in on it," said Robert Hopkins, a retired movie executive who is the 75-year-old son of Harry Hopkins, the Roosevelt factotum through the Depression and war.

"If Roosevelt had a program that didn't work, he killed it and tried something new," he said, making a distinction between Mr. Clinton's careful centrist compromise on the welfare issue and Roosevelt's heady willingness to try something risky, time after time, in the search for solutions that worked.

"Not only to be daring," recalled David Ginsburg, an 85-year-old lawyer who was a Roosevelt speech writer. "But to accept the responsibility to dare." By Mr. Ginsburg's recollection, the Roosevelt powers of personal communication were harnessed not to cautious centrism but to determined pedagogy as Roosevelt worked to shift people behind him to complex issues.

"I see Clinton as possibly the most intelligent and sensitive president we've had since Roosevelt, but I don't think he has assumed the responsibility that go with the presidency," Mr. Ginsburg said with some regret.

As hard as they can be on Mr. Clinton for jettisoning liberalism and blurring party traditions, the surviving New Dealers are the best witnesses to an

important piece of history: Roosevelt first campaigned as a conservative, seeking a balanced budget, but once in office became a liberal by dint of trial-and-error exigencies and national crises.

"What seems to be happening now is the contrary," said Mr. Yates, 87, who was first elected in 1948 as a war veteran steeped in Roosevelt liberalism. "Bill Clinton started as a liberal and moved the other way. I don't know where he's really going."

In fairness, Mr. Hopkins notes Mr. Clinton does not have the grand, if harrowing, challenges of the Roosevelt era to dramatically rise to.

"No war, the economy's fine, and so it's harder for him to define the issues," he said. "But the problem is he gets caught up in a lot of less important things."

The Roosevelt veterans have survived into a political age that has exchanged the techniques of back-room arm-twisting for those of spin-control image-cooing. They celebrate that, except for the news media's compliance in not showing him wheelchair-bound, the surviving images of their man are from uncontrived opportunities.

"There was gaiety, laughter, fun, and it wasn't assumed," Mr. Ginsburg said. "Nowadays, the White House would be debating whether to show the president with his cigarette holder," he said, referring to the jaunty photograph of Roosevelt that survives as definitively as any memorial.

Away From Politics

• Scientists have discovered the mechanism by which HIV, the AIDS virus, penetrates the membrane of the cells it infects. Knowledge of the mechanism, a sort of spring-loaded harpoon that pierces the cell's surface, should provide drug designers many ideas for jamming it. A team at Whitehead Institute in Cambridge, Massachusetts, reported the advance in the journal Cell, beating a Harvard University team into print. (NYT)

• Museum officials are at a loss to explain why after years of planning and the expenditure of hundreds of thousands of dollars to bring a collection of Russian jewels and other treasures of the czars to a U.S. tour, Russian officials have called it off, saying they want the treasures removed from a vault at Corcoran Art Gallery in Washington, where they had been displayed, and returned to Moscow. "It just doesn't make sense," said Peter Marzio, director of Houston's Museum of Fine Arts, which was to show the exhibit starting May 7. Russian officials said the collection was wanted for display during Moscow's 850th anniversary. (AP)

• Teenage smoking rates are still lower than in the 1970s, but the percentage of 12th-graders who smoked daily last year rose to 22 percent, a rise of 20 percent since 1991, according to an annual survey by the University of Michigan. The rate among 10th-graders was 18.3 percent, up 45 percent, while for eighth-graders it was 10.4 percent, up 44 percent. (NYT)



Flames raging through the Social Security building in Grand Forks, North Dakota, as floodwaters from the Red River filled the streets.

Fire Follows Big Flood in North Dakota

The Associated Press

GRAND FORKS, North Dakota — A block of central Grand Forks burned Sunday as firefighters struggled to battle the blaze on streets swamped by floodwaters from the Red River.

Earlier, most of the city's 50,000 residents fled as the water rushed over sandbag and clay dikes, flooding at least 60 percent of Grand Forks.

The police and National Guard troops tried to get holdouts to leave, threatening arrest for those who refused. In neighboring East Grand Forks, Minnesota, officials also urged residents to leave.

The fire started Saturday afternoon in a three-story building and quickly spread to other structures in the city center while firefighters were hampered by streets covered by 4 feet (1.2 meters) of water.

The cause of the fire and the extent of the damage were unknown.

"Our entire town is flooded," Battalion Chief Jerry Anderson said. "and now our town is burning."

Mayor Pat Owens said residents might have to stay out of their homes for two weeks while the city's water plant was repaired.

Across the river, many residents of East Grand Forks left after an 8-foot dike burst, leaving an estimated 3,000 people with no way to get over a bridge to the rest of the city; some were rescued by helicopter.

Bush Gives Modest View Of His Presidency

By Clifford Krauss
New York Times Service

HEMPSTEAD, New York — His honorary doctorate from Hofstra University in hand, former President George Bush ticked off the monumental events that occurred during his single term with more jokes than commentary.

"Unlike Churchill, I have no plans to shape history," Mr. Bush said at the co-convocation of a weekend conference analyzing his presidency. Keeping to a blue-blood tone of modesty in a speech barely longer than his introductions, he added, "As the historians know, Socrates gave advice and they poisoned him."

The historians joined students and former members of the Bush administration, a total of several hundred, in a standing ovation, but if Mr. Bush hoped that the conference would begin to put a bright historical glow on his four years in the White House he probably left disappointed.

Many of the historians who gathered here cooed with much of the conventional wisdom expressed by the pundits who watched Mr. Bush's popularity steadily plunge in the months after the Gulf War as he appeared unable to lift the country out of the 1991-92 recession.

The general opinion of many of the historians was summed up by John Sloan, a University of Houston professor, who presented a paper that said, "Bush's skill and decisiveness in foreign policy, rather than compensating for his weakness in domestic policy, accentuated his inadequacy and waffling when handling domestic issues."

Several of the historians took Mr. Bush to task for running a negative campaign in 1992 that stressed racially charged comments over issues.

"Bush's handlers virtually nominated Willie Horton as Michael Dukakis's running mate," said Jean-Philippe Faletta, a political scientist at Wayne State University in Detroit. "The method in which George Bush wooed the White House in 1988 negatively affected his ability to govern, and wage his bid for reelection in 1992."

In one of the sessions, Bush administration officials like James Baker, a former secretary of State, and Brent Scowcroft, a former national security adviser, painted a very different portrait of Mr. Bush as a decent, loyal man who had his hands firmly on the rudder at a time of revolutionary change.

But even as the aides praised his handling of the Panama invasion, the crumbling of the Soviet bloc, and the launching of the human-

itarian mission in Somalia, they tended to agree with the historians that Mr. Bush had fallen short in communicating with the public, especially in contrast to his predecessor, Ronald Reagan.

"Was he a man of vision?" asked Mr. Scowcroft, who is writing a book with Mr. Bush. "You bet he had vision, but he did not articulate it."

There were also more than a few touching moments at the conference.

People in wheelchairs gave Mr. Bush a stirring ovation during a discussion devoted to the Americans with Disabilities Act, legislation that Mr. Bush signed that was designed to end job discrimination for the disabled.

Justin Dart Jr., chairman of the National Council on Disability, compared Mr. Bush with Abraham Lincoln and said he would be long remembered by the disabled.

For his part, Mr. Bush credited Republican and Democrats in Congress for enacting the legislation, one of several acts of bipartisanship during his appearance at the conference.

Mr. Bush appeared relaxed, ebullient and tanned, and he was as self-mocking as he was self-effacing. At the convocation, he recalled that Barbara Bush told him after his recent parachute jump, "It's the first you've been in free-fall since 1992."

POLITICAL NOTES

Republicans Break Ranks on Welfare

WASHINGTON — Republicans are beginning to break ranks with congressional leaders on the issue of restoring welfare benefits for legal immigrants.

The welfare law passed last August would bar federal disability and food stamp benefits to immigrants who have not become citizens. But three Republican senators, with five Democratic co-sponsors, introduced legislation last week to continue paying benefits to legal residents who were already receiving them. They called restoration of benefits a matter of fairness to poor, elderly and disabled immigrants who arrived under one set of rules, only to have them changed years later. (WP)

Lapse Found at Immigration Agency

WASHINGTON — A set of sweeping safeguards issued late last year to prevent some immigrants with criminal records from be-

coming citizens has been largely ignored by the agency that was supposed to carry them out, auditors hired by the government said.

Of the 23 Immigration and Naturalization Service offices the auditors visited recently, only eight were complying to any extent with the new procedures, the accounting firm KPMG Peat Marwick found in its interim review. (NYT)

Quote / Unquote

Thomas Daschle, Democrat of South Dakota and Senate minority leader, accusing Republicans of trying to "steal" the Senate seat won last year by Mary Landrieu, Democrat of Louisiana, and suggesting that the Rules and Administration Committee chairman, John Warner, Republican of Virginia, had stepped up an inquiry into the legality of her election to further his ambitions: "I think everyone in this town knows what's going on. John Warner wants to be the next chairman of the Armed Services Committee. John Warner is willing to pay whatever dues necessary to see that that happens." (WP)



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ASIA/PACIFIC

Ex-Foreign Minister Is Named to Lead India, Ending Crisis

By John F. Burns
New York Times Service

NEW DELHI — Three weeks of political turmoil ended Sunday when President Shankar Dayal Sharma named as the new prime minister Inder K. Gujral, a former foreign minister, who has been widely praised for moving to improve India's troubled relations with neighboring countries, including Pakistan.

Mr. Gujral, 77, was a surprise choice after days of maneuvering between the 14-party coalition government and the Congress (I) Party.

On April 11, Congress caused the defeat of the government in Parliament and demanded the ouster of Prime Minister H. D. Deve Gowda as its price for renewing its parliamentary support of the coalition Mr. Deve Gowda has led.

With Congress backing him, Mr. Gujral appears to be assured of the support he would need as prime minister to win a parliamentary confidence vote.

[Mr. Sharma's invitation came after both the United Front and Congress assured him that the new government would be stable. The Associated Press reported. Earlier, the Front gave Mr. Sharma a letter signed by 16 parties that pledged support to the government.]

[Mr. Gujral said that he would be sworn in at 10 A.M. Monday, and that the president had asked him to prove his majority in the lower house of Par-

liament on Tuesday.

[Like his predecessor, Mr. Gujral will probably struggle to retain all the members of the United Front, who range from Communists to free-market advocates. He also needs the Congress Party, which will back the front but has not joined it.]

[The Tamil Nadu Congress leader, G. K. Mooganar, was apparently angry that he had not been chosen as coalition leader. But he pledged that, like Congress, he would support the front from outside the government.]

Mr. Gujral seemed likely to be seen by many Indians as a more credible prime minister than Mr. Deve Gowda, a 63-year-old veteran of regional politics in the

southern state of Karnataka who snubbed India by emerging from a general election last May as the country's leader.

Although he promised to shake India out of the lethargy that has overtaken efforts to tackle the country's deep-rooted problems of poverty, illiteracy and disease, his energies were quickly sapped by the political maneuvering needed to keep his fractious coalition government from collapsing.

He was widely criticized by political opponents for what they saw as attempts to keep his government in power by shielding prominent Congress Party politicians from indictment on charges of corruption under the government that was defeated in the 1996 election.

Mr. Deve Gowda denied the accusations, and in any case seemed to have limited influence on the criminal investigations, which have led to indictments against several top Congress Party figures. The indictments led to severe strains between Mr. Deve Gowda and Congress leaders, who announced March 30 that their bloc of 140 members of Parliament would no longer support the Deve Gowda government.

With fewer than 200 votes in the 542-seat lower house, the coalition was badly defeated in the subsequent parliamentary confidence vote. But the Congress leader, Sitaram Kesri, 77, was unable to muster support from other parties in his own bid to form a coalition.

Pre-Election Grievances Test Indonesian System

By Seth Mydans
New York Times Service

JAKARTA — Parliamentary elections will not be held in Indonesia until the end of May, but the governing party has already announced its winning total: 70.02 percent of the vote.

In what will probably be the last election to endorse the long leadership of President Suharto, nothing is being left to chance. An outbreak of religion-based riots over recent months has dramatized an undercurrent of discontent in Indonesia and heightened the determination of the authorities to control every aspect of political life.

Opposition parties have been put under pressure. Lists of candidates have been vetted. Stringent new campaign rules have severely restricted the sites and the content of rallies and speeches.

And after the worst riot in decades in Jakarta last July, a series of arrests, interrogations and trials has sought to neutralize the most outspoken dissidents.

The national temperature has risen in advance of the election as a host of grievances rise to the surface. Though Mr. Suharto, 75, seems determined to stay on for another term, his thorough planning for the campaign has not been matched by plans for the long-term future. No system for an orderly transition of power has been put in place.

And while he has engineered a sharp rise in living standards in Indonesia — with 200 million people, the world's fourth-most-populous country — he has not allowed a comparable evolution of the nation's institutions to accommodate the demands of an increasingly aware electorate.

Many analysts say the recent riots reflect the unresponsiveness of the police, the courts and the governing Golkar party to complaints about corruption, unemployment, government abuses and

growing disparities in wealth.

"There are outlets for the grievances, but the fact is these outlets cannot be considered as truly representing the increasing awareness of rights," said Dewi Fortuna Anwar, a political scientist.

"Maybe the political system was adequate to deal with the country's problems from the mid-'60s to the mid-'80s," she said. "But development itself has brought new problems. There is a new middle class. People are more educated. With globalization, there is the increasing intrusion of the outside world."

With the coming elections thoroughly choreographed, the government's main worry now is something called "golput," which means "white group," as opposed to the red, yellow and green colors that symbolize Indonesia's three officially sanctioned political parties.

Golput is the popular new name for a boycott — virtually the only way left for voters to register their frustration with the government — and Indonesia's leaders are taking it very seriously.

"To choose not to vote is their right, but if they urge others to follow suit, punitive measures await them," Mr. Suharto said.

The authorities have arrested Sri Bintang Parungkas, a dissident former legislator who had sent out greeting cards calling for an election boycott. He was charged with subversion, a crime that carries the death penalty.

But the idea seems to be catching on. Newspaper headlines report the authorities' vigorous pursuit of underground activists who distribute pro-boycott leaflets. A recent poll suggested that large numbers of young people were prepared to "vote golput."

"Golput is like a fourth contesting party," wrote the newspaper Media Indonesia. Some say the spread of the idea



TAKE A WHIFF — Visitors in Jakarta flocking Sunday to see a "Giant Suweg," also called a Cadaver Flower because of its foul odor when in bloom. This one reached a record height of 2.17 meters (7.1 feet).

of a boycott is a measure of the country's political restlessness. "People want more openness," an Asian diplomat said. "They want more room. They want the government to be more responsive to their needs."

On May 29, voters are to choose 425 legislators, who will join 75 military representatives and 500 others selected by the government in a People's Consultative Assembly that will elect the next president, in 1998.

The governing party's announcement that it will win 70.02 percent of the vote offered a figure 2 percentage points above its score five years ago.

"It's not a prediction based on nothing," said a party official, Abdullah Alatas Fahri. "It's a scientific calculation."

Preparations have been under way for

months make sure everything goes smoothly.

Last year, when Megawati Sukarnoputri, leader of one of the three sanctioned parties, seemed to be growing too popular and assertive, the government engineered a change in her party's leadership. Although Mrs. Megawati — the daughter of Indonesia's founder, Sukarno — had never said she sought to challenge Mr. Suharto, she developed a fiercely loyal following. Her party is now split and feuding to the point of impotence.

Indeed, most of the boycott sentiment probably comes from angry Megawati supporters who feel they have been disenfranchised, said Hari Tjan, a political scientist with the Center for Strategic and International Studies, an independent research organization.

The party split was the catalyst for the rioting in Jakarta, which took at least five lives. The riot erupted when the military forcibly evicted Mrs. Megawati's supporters from the party headquarters in central Jakarta.

The new election ground rules are the most stringent since Mr. Suharto took power in 1968.

During the 25-day campaign, the large outdoor rallies and motorcades that made a festival of past elections will be banned. Lists of campaign speakers are to be submitted for government approval and texts of radio and television speeches are to be reviewed in advance.

Mr. Suharto explained the tight election controls in a speech in January. "What we have to avoid is an uncontrolled situation, clashes and animosity among ourselves," he said.

BRIEFLY

Alliance Shaken In Phnom Penh

PHNOM PENH — Cambodia's beleaguered co-prime minister, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, on Sunday accused his coalition government rival, Hun Sen, of trying to destabilize his royalist party, the United National Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia, and stage a "real coup d'état."

Mr. Hun Sen, of the Cambodian People's Party, has fueled tension between the partners in the coalition by pledging backing and assistance for dissidents challenging Prince Ranariddh's leadership of the royalists.

He asserted Saturday that 12 royalist Parliament members had split with Prince Ranariddh and would give the Cambodian People's Party and two smaller allies a majority in Parliament for the first time, enabling them to pass legislation in the 120-member house. (Reuters)

China Police Quell Violence in Town

BEIJING — Chinese authorities have sent hundreds of paramilitary armed police to restore order in a mountain town in southern Guangdong after a dispute over local elections turned violent, local officials said Sunday.

Officials said recent violent protests in the town, Wuyuan, were a result of a string of disputes that had built up over several years, including disagreements over land and the recent failure of local authorities to announce village election results.

Several officials sent in from neighboring areas last week to take over administration of the restive region were beaten up by angry residents, said a government official. (Reuters)

Indonesian Plane Crashes, Killing 15

JAKARTA — Indonesian authorities have recovered the flight data and cockpit voice recorders of a plane that crashed on the island of Belitung, killing at least 15 people, the official Antara news agency reported Sunday.

The Merpati Nusantara Airlines' plane crashed Saturday at Belitung, 400 kilometers (250 miles) north of Jakarta.

The 68-seat plane with 48 passengers and five crew on board crashed into a coconut plantation on approach to Belitung's Buluh Tumbang airport after leaving Jakarta. (Reuters)

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EUROPE

In a First, a Spanish Polluter Gets a Jail Term

By Marlies Simons
New York Times Service

MADRID — Spain is a country with a poor environmental record. It has stripped its forests, soiled its rivers and bays and paved its coasts. The government is often reprimanded and fined for violations of European environmental rules.

But a Spanish judge has just done something out of the ordinary: He has sent a factory owner to prison for committing crimes against the environment. It is the first such punishment in Spain and decidedly an exceptional step in Europe.

The factory owner, Jose Puigero, who owns textile plants in three towns in northeastern Spain, entered jail last

week after his appeal to the country's highest court and pleas for a pardon from many influential people failed.

A Barcelona court found Mr. Puigero's company, Hilados y Tejidos Puigero SA, guilty of illegal dumping of chemical dyes and detergents into a river in the town of Sant Bartomeu del Grau. Because the dumping went on for several decades, the court said, local groundwater and wells and the river Tegu were seriously contaminated.

The misdeeds were aggravated, the court said, because the industrialist repeatedly ignored government warnings. It found Mr. Puigero guilty of a "continuous crime against the public health and the environment."

He was sentenced to four years and fined close to \$50,000. He had already

paid nearly \$170,000 to repair environmental damage.

Lawyers said it was not certain if Mr. Puigero, 66, would have to serve the full sentence. He had tried to avoid going to jail by pleading poor health, but a court doctor rejected this. His imprisonment has caused consternation in the small Catalan towns where the manufacturer is considered a notable.

"Many people are alarmed here," said Ramon Vall, mayor of Frats de Lluçanès, the site of one of the Puigero plants.

The company, which was founded 40 years ago, employs 2,300 workers, and their labor union has petitioned the government to pardon their employer. In effect, a broad movement is under way to press for Mr. Puigero's re-

lease, with petitions coming from several mayors, the local bishop, the Barcelona Chamber of Industrialists and the Employers Association.

One reason for the wide support is that Mr. Puigero is seen as a scapegoat. The region around Barcelona is one of Spain's most industrialized and most polluted areas, where factories have violated air and water standards for many years.

But the region of Catalonia is also Spain's first to modernize and eager to integrate into Europe. The new state magistrate in charge of investigating environmental violations here has been particularly active. The year-old national government is also tightening environmental laws and has created an Environment Ministry.

Anti-Communists Win A Majority in Bulgaria

By Jonathan C. Randal
Washington Post Service

SOFIA — An opposition coalition committed to carrying out free-market reforms won a landslide victory in Bulgaria's early parliamentary elections, providing a rare optimistic note in the Balkans' often somber post-Communist economic and political history, results showed Sunday.

The electoral commission said that the anti-Communist Union of Democratic Forces and its coalition allies had won 52 percent of the votes cast, which would give them 136 or 137 seats in the 240-member Parliament.

With nearly 98 percent of the vote counted, the Socialists had 22 percent of

the vote, or 57 seats, and three smaller parties were also set to enter Parliament. Final results are expected Tuesday.

Such a clear majority means President Petar Stoyanov's Union of Democratic Forces could rule without allies who might be tempted to question the stiff terms set by international lending institutions for continuing to bail out the heavily indebted and economically mismanaged nation.

The Socialists were driven from office in February by month-long public demonstrations culminating in a caretaker government. Their projected 25 seats are a sharp decline from the 125 they held in the old Parliament.

Also winning seats in the new Parliament were three small coalitions. One represents the Turkish minority and monarchists. The second, known as Euro-Left, is composed of Socialist dissidents fed up with the party that has run Bulgaria for five of its seven post-Communist years. The third, the Bulgarian Businessmen's Bloc, is a populist protest group.

The results were seen as formal ratification of the daily demonstrations that finally forced the Socialists to accept early elections almost two years before their mandate ended.

Sixty percent of registered voters cast ballots Saturday, down from 75 percent in 1992, indicating that many of them believed they could abstain without endangering a Union of Democratic Forces victory.

The lackluster election campaign also reflected the efficiency of a caretaker government of technocrats named by Mr. Stoyanov, who was elected president last fall and who negotiated the Socialists' exit from power.

Headed by Sofia's popular mayor, Stefan Sofianski, the caretakers rapidly restored confidence in Bulgaria's institutions, considered on the brink of bankruptcy and collapse when they took office.

The interim government concluded a \$657 million loan with the International Monetary Fund, setting in motion pledges for a similar amount from the European Union and other lenders. The caretakers also began a crackdown on corruption and organized crime.

Most of the fresh funds were earmarked for paying off \$1 billion of Bulgaria's \$9.65 billion debt. The loans helped stabilize the economy, which saw inflation reduced to 12.5 percent last month, and alleviated some of the suffering stemming from a slide in the minimum wage and in retirement benefits to well below subsistence levels.

Rivals in U.K. Vote Shun Foreign Affairs

Aversion Could Hobble Britain in Decisions About the EU and U.S.

By Joseph Fitchett
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — The British election campaign has been almost entirely devoid of serious foreign policy debate, even though the new government will immediately face critical decisions about Britain's future relationship with continental Europe — and with the United States.

While it has become commonplace to see domestic issues dominate elections in post-Cold War democracies, diplomats and analysts in London say that the lack of campaign debate and commitments has reduced the chances that Britain can marshal a strong, clear approach to pressing foreign issues after the election.

The British government that emerges from the election, now less than two weeks off, will have trouble claiming a clear mandate and strong credibility as it heads into crucial meetings with its allies — summit meetings of the European Union in June and North Atlantic Treaty Organization in July, these experts say. The first is supposed to chart the next steps in European political integration and set the framework for eastward expansion, and the NATO session will decide which former Soviet satellites will be invited to join the alliance.

Despite the stakes for Britain, the campaign has "seemed like a double conspiracy of silence," according to Jonathan Eyal, director of research at the Royal United Services Institute, an independent think-tank in London.

Conspicuously, the Conservative party and the Labour party have both shunned debate on security issues, including Labour's pledge of a strategic defense review, the future of Britain's nuclear weapons, possible changes in the United Nations Security Council that might dilute Britain's status as one of the five permanent members with veto powers, foreign aid and trade as a lever in human rights.

The imminent transfer of Hong Kong to China, for example, seems bound to pose problems in reconciling Britain's business interests with its human rights commitments. Similarly, Britain's military strength and its ability to play a leading role in Bosnia and other troubled spots will affect how much influence London can exert on NATO expansion or institutional changes in the Union, the topics of the two summit meetings.

Foreign policy questions have usually weighed heavily with a British electorate concerned about their country's international position, including its special ties with Washington. Even in the last British election in 1992, Mr. Major's upset victory has been partly laid to voters' belief that a Conservative government would be effective in keeping the United States engaged in European security amid uncertainties about President Bill Clinton's intentions.

This time, however, each main party has reasons to fear a backlash if it attacks its rival on international issues.

Mr. Major and his campaign team shy from questioning Labour's vague plans on military spending because they do not want to draw attention to the government's record of downsizing Britain's ambitions to match the nation's reduced wealth, according to Mr. Eyal.

His challenger, Tony Blair, does not want to jeopardize his lead in the polls with questions about the Labour party's ability to protect Britain's interests.

"Every day when foreign policy doesn't come up is a day the Labour party won," said a campaign aide, citing Mr. Clinton's successful tactics in

NEWS ANALYSIS

running against the Reagan-Bush record as an example for Mr. Blair, whose party has been out of power for 18 years.

But this campaign tactic has sown doubts among diplomats in London about Mr. Blair's readiness, if elected, to carry out Labour's commitment to reinvigorate British foreign policy.

Germany and France have been waiting for Mr. Blair to set a new approach in European policy, and both Bonn and Paris would be stunned — and angered — if Labour turns out to be unready for initiatives taking Britain more deeply into the EU.

Disappointment would affect Washington, too. The White House has been all-but-openly rooting for Mr. Blair because of his ideological and tempera-

mental affinities with Mr. Clinton. But any bonemoon between London and Washington is liable to be short-lived if Britain stays on the sidelines in Europe.

As a Clinton aide explained, U.S. interest in a special relationship with Britain these days "depends on London keeping a seat at the top table in EU decision-making."

So far, Mr. Blair has offered few specifics on EU questions beyond a plan to end Britain's boycott of the social charter, a shibboleth for Euro-skeptics but actually a largely symbolic statute.

Meanwhile, the issue of a single European currency eluded substantive discussion until it erupted this week when two cabinet ministers — and nearly 200 Conservative candidates — revolted against Mr. Major's attempt to tip toe around the question by leaving it open.

Mr. Major "finally was forced to admit that the common currency, and Britain's role in a federal Europe, were the central issues in the election," Paul Johnson, a Conservative intellectual, wrote in the newspaper Daily Mail.

But the episode did not flush out any fresh information about the views of Mr. Blair, which are practically identical to Mr. Major's "wait and see" posture.

That sensible-sounding stance appeals to voters, polls show, even though it entails delay in the inevitable debate on the issue. That delay, diplomats said, is liable to leave Britain with scant leverage in coming EU negotiations about Europe's economic future.

Ankara Under Pressure To Temper Radical Islam

By Kelly Couturier
Washington Post Service

ANKARA — With Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan and many of his closest aides on a pilgrimage to the Islamic holy city of Mecca, the government's secular wing last week handed the nation's governors a list of instructions aimed at stamping out radical Muslim activity.

Interior Minister Meral Aksener delivered the instructions to a gathering of 80 provincial governors. They include orders to fire any civil servant involved in subversive religious activities, to close illegally operating schools and hostels run by religious foundations, to shut down unauthorized Koran study groups and to enforce secular dress codes.

The action came as pressure mounted on the government coalition, especially on the secular True Path Party, to implement a broad military-backed plan designed to crack down on Islamic radicalism. The National Security Council, which issued the plan, is expected to review the government's progress in

implementing the plan at its monthly meeting, scheduled for Saturday.

A senior military official, General Cevik Bir, recently called Islamic anti-secular movements a greater national security threat than the Kurdish separatist insurgency that has preoccupied the government for the last 12 years.

Some political analysts were skeptical that the instructions to the governors would satisfy the security council, which issued its 18-point plan in February.

The council likely will demand further progress in areas not addressed by the interior minister's directives, said a political analyst, Rasit Gurdilek. Among them, he said, are overhauling the national education system in a way that discourages enrollment in religious schools and enacting tighter regulations on private donations, especially from religious organizations, to political parties.

Mr. Erbakan's Welfare Party has pushed an Islamic-oriented agenda, including proposals to relax dress codes to allow women to wear religious head scarves in public buildings. In the process, Welfare has drawn the ire of the armed forces, the nation's sworn guarantor of secularism.

The 10-month-old government, the first in modern Turkey to be led by an Islam-based party, has also caused concern within the armed forces, analysts say, by failing to crack down on a small radical element both within and outside the Welfare Party that seeks to alter Turkey's secular foundations.

Welfare has dragged its feet on implementing the 18-point plan, which calls for constitutional amendments and other changes in law. In particular, the party has resisted enacting a new education project that would phase out religious middle schools and make it harder for religious school graduates to enter universities.

An estimated 500,000 male and female students are enrolled in religious middle and high schools, known as imam-cleric training schools, many of which are funded by private religious foundations based in Turkey. Some also receive funds from Saudi Arabia and other Muslim countries, government officials said. The military-backed plan calls for enrollment in such schools to be scaled back to only those students who plan to become clerics.

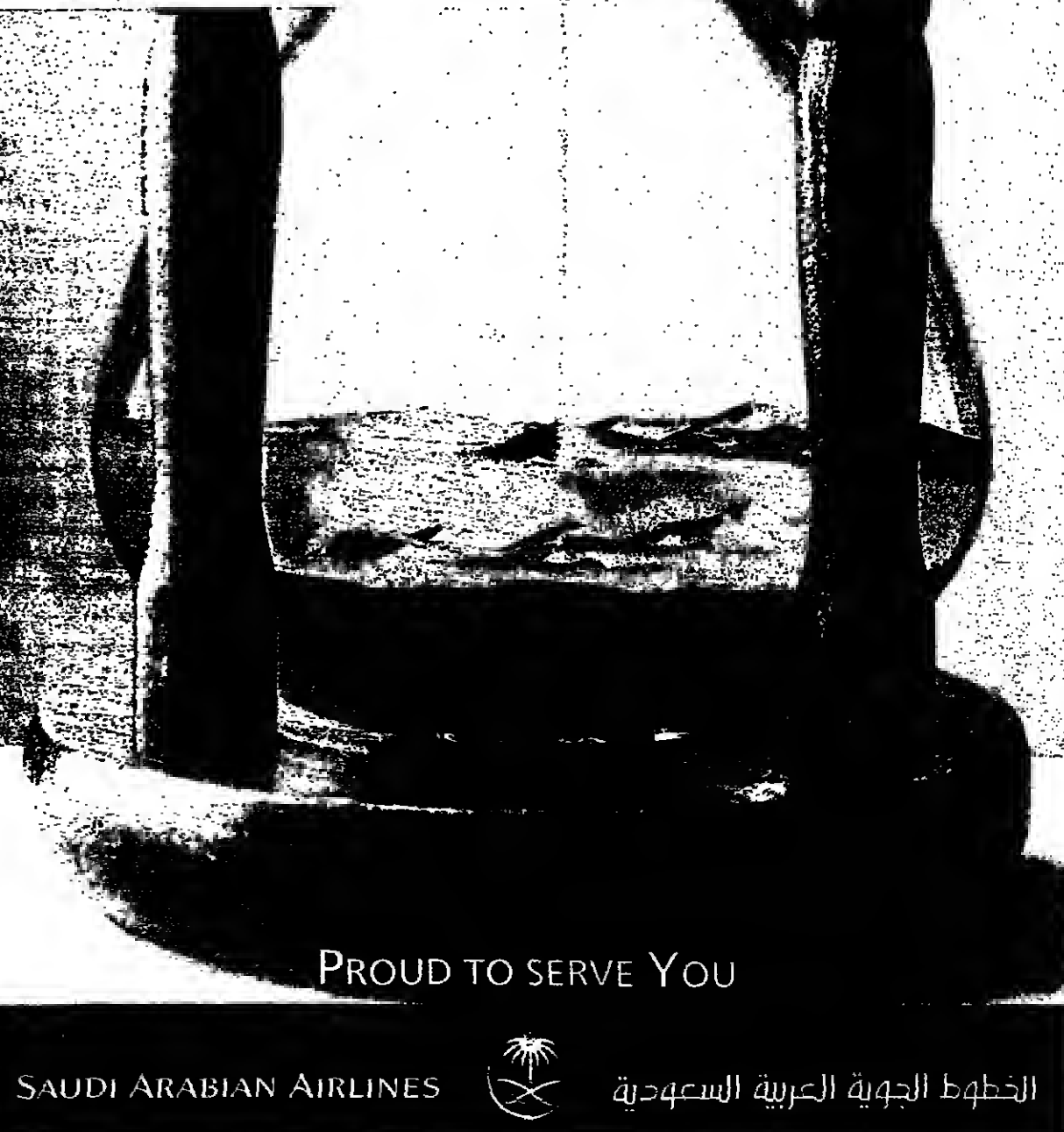
Many Welfare supporters and others in the conservative religious community oppose phasing out the religious schools. They argue that the schools are not hotbeds of religious fanaticism, as portrayed by the secular establishment, but rather provide an alternative to the state system, offering children a good education as they learn the principles of Islam.

But many in the secular camp say they fear that students in such schools have become vulnerable to radical Islamic propaganda.

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Sinn Fein Is Seeking Post-Election Talks

MONAGHAN, Ireland — The IRA's political wing, Sinn Fein, on Sunday challenged the winner of British elections May 1 to lift a ban on its entry to Northern Ireland peace talks and to negotiate a lasting settlement.

Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein leader, said at a party conference here that Sinn Fein votes in the elections would put pressure on the British government and pro-British Unionist parties to end the ban and talk. He called the elections "a watershed moment in our history that must be seized."

Sinn Fein is contesting 17 of the 18 Northern Ireland constituencies and is confident of winning two to three seats. Britain, Ireland and the United States have banned all contact with Sinn Fein since the Irish Republican Army ended a 17-month cease-fire in its war against British rule in Northern Ireland in February 1996. (Reuters)

Chernomyrdin Opens 2-Day Visit to Prague

PRAGUE — Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin of Russia arrived in Prague on Sunday for a visit likely to be dominated by Czech hopes to join an enlarged NATO this year.

The two-day visit is the first by a Russian leader since the Soviet Union

dissolved in 1991. Russia is opposed to expansion of NATO. But Mr. Chernomyrdin said that "the Czech people will decide alone" whether they need NATO membership, Interfax reported. (AFP)

EU Faces Farm Cuts

BRUSSELS — European Union farm ministers on Monday will attack planned cuts in subsidies to cereal and oilseed farmers meant to fund aid for beef producers hit by the "mad cow" crisis, diplomats said.

Ministers are expected to press for sweeteners for their farmers, which the EU farm commissioner, Franz Fischler, is expected to oppose. (Reuters)

The EU This Week:

International Herald Tribune

Significant events:
• EU agriculture ministers meet in Luxembourg on Monday and Tuesday. Key issues will be whether ministers can make progress on the plan to reduce cereal subsidies to free money to support the beef market, and signal any compromise in a dispute with United States over trade in meat and poultry.

• The European Commission is to release its 1997 economic forecast Wednesday, giving the first indication of whether the 15 EU governments are on track to meet the 3 percent deficit criterion for a single currency.

[illegible]

LANGUAGE

'Toast' Is 'History,' Watch Out for 'Roadkill'

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — In our use of its recent slang sense, we have come to the end of history.

History, the with-it user of vogue lingo will recall, was a cheery term for "goodbye," as in "I'm history"; another sense was "out of it, pass," as in "Nobodies hums that tune anymore; it's history." A more extreme version of that sense was "finished, washed up, wrung out and cast aside," as in "Forget about her, she's history." (The word's demise seemed to be further hastened by Francis Fukuyama's amusing musing about Clio in his provocative book titled "The End of History.")

But history, in its sense of "hopelessly old-fashioned; last year's craze" is back in the mists with *twenty-three skidoo*. In our breathless run-up to the millennium, the hot term for outcastness — expressed in a combination of scorn and revulsion — is *toast*.

"Hey, dude. You're toast, man" was a passage in The St. Petersburg Times of Oct. 1, 1987, the earliest citation the Oxford English Dictionary research staff has of this usage. "Actually, the trendiest way of saying someone is finished is to say 'He's toast,'" wrote the columnist George Will the following year. "The women in Bush's entourage also are turn-you-to-toast toughies."

It means "burned, scorched, wiped out, demolished" (without even the consolation of being remembered, as history offered). Makers of a movie about a volcano in California wrote the tag line "The Coast Is Toast." When Ted Turner, the magnate who enjoys sailing, almost fell overboard, he told an interviewer in 1992, "I thought I was toast—I would have died"; five years later, firing his own son after a merger, the tough-loving father said, "He's toast."

Thus has the simile *warm as toast* been thrust aside. The noun's standard meaning — "sliced bread singed by heat," from the Latin *torrere*, "to burn" — is being temporarily overrun by its slang meaning. A less torrid

Caribbean sense was described by Roger Abrahams in the July 1962 American Folklore magazine as "the long narrative poem called the *toast*." However, the verb *to toast* continues to mean "to salute with a glass in hand and an encomium on the lips"; a similar sense of the verb can be discerned in the Caribbean meaning "to accompany reggae music by shouting."

If *toast* comes after the end of history, what will come after the final scraping of *toast*?

A far more horrific term: *roadkill*. Representative Peter King, Republican-New York, used the term as he played Casca to Speaker Newt Gingrich's Caesar recently. "As *road kill* on the highway of American politics," he wrote in The Weekly Standard,

But 'roadkill' will not soon be shunted aside by 'pavement pizza.'

"Newt cannot sell the Republican agenda." This followed the metaphor used by Friedman, whose *toast* usage is cited above, referring last December to nations that fail to get their international economics right as "road kill on the global highway." Frequent use of *roadkill* with information superhighway can be expected, especially in Internet prose.

The original meaning was "an animal killed by a motor vehicle and lying on a roadside." The first OED citation is from 1972, as Richard and Rochelle Wright wrote in the book "Cariboo Mileposts" about magpies: "They... usually feed on carrion or road-kills."

Now the metaphorical sense means "no longer viable," with a second sense of "easy victim"; Charlie Nobles, a sportswriter for The New York Times, described the Miami Hurricanes college basketball team as "formerly viewed as Big East road kill." Drop the hyphen; close up the space and write it as *roadkill*.

Will the vogue meanings of the

nouns *toast* and *roadkill* follow the course of all-but-forgotten history? We'll know when all is said and done. (At the end of the day is *toast*, but *roadkill* will not soon be shunted aside by *pavement pizza*.)

Alarm shown here 18 months ago about the vogue use of *I'm not sure that* to mean "I'm fairly certain that" is a lot of hokey. It has failed to dampen the delight in this location shown by practitioners of sly derogation.

"I'm just not sure whether Sky is a mass-market service," a media-security analyst was quoted regarding Rupert Murdoch's planned satellite service that might draw viewers from the cable industry. Note it was not the forthright *I doubt that* or the even more resolutely opinionated "Sky won't fly," just that certain uncertainty.

The verb *doubt* is obviously out. Not since when all is said and done was shoved aside by the Britishism *at the end of the day* has the tried-and-true been so thoroughly ousted by the trendy.

My philosophy: If you can't stop "em, correct 'em. Should it be *I'm not sure that*, or *whether*, or *if*? The answer rests on whether you want to express uncertainty or disbelief. (I just used *whether* because I am in genuine doubt about which you want to express.) If you're sincere about not being sure about the future of Rupert's Sky venture, use *whether* or *if*. (I like *whether* better because it's less ambiguous than *if*.) But if you're not really uncertain in your own mind, and your purpose is to cast doubt on or spread disbelief about Mr. Murdoch's enterprise, use *that*.

Am I splitting hairs? Sure; that's what mavens do. But on this, I'm backed up by Randolph Quirk, the usagist who sits in the British House of Lords as an independent spokesman on education: "When *I'm not sure* is followed by *that*, the meaning of *I'm not sure* is 'I doubt,' a polite denial. But when *I'm not sure* is followed by *whether* or *if*, the meaning is either 'I wonder' or 'I don't know.' There's a subtle difference."

New York Times Service

BOOKS

LIFE ITSELF: Exploring the Realm of the Living Cell

By Boyce Rensberger. 290 pages. \$30. Oxford University Press.

Reviewed by Floyd E. Bloom

SCIENCE writers and scientists have a perverse symbiotic relationship. Without scientists, science writers wouldn't exist, let alone have much to write about. But without science writers of the caliber of The Washington Post's Boyce Rensberger, the meaning of much of what scientists have done would be lost to public understanding. The symbiosis reaches its constructive ideal, however, when writers such as Rensberger catch the zeal of scientific discovery and — burning to explain it fully, shorn of jargon — seek out scientists as tutors to explain the complexities.

The ability to absorb that knowledge, question it and then test their understanding in translations from science-speak back to plain-speak characterizes this lyrical, modest-sized, but factually dense volume on the marvelous progress that has been made in our understanding of the elegant molecular machinery running within our cells.

For Rensberger, the seductiveness of

cell biology began with a hands-on summer physiology course at the Marine Biological Laboratories in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. Seeing living cells under microscopes, observing their internal components with special chemicals that increased their optical contrast, and then learning the underlying biochemical operations ignited his interest in a self-education assisted by some of the most distinguished scientists in the field.

One of the admirable features of this book is the very sparse use of metaphors to explain scientific phenomena. Two are used repeatedly and effectively. Chapter 4, "The Living-Room Cell," introduces readers to a plan by which the relative sizes and shapes of cell components can be appreciated in everyday terms. Imagine an average cell enlarged 300,000 times to the size of an average living room. At that scale, the nucleus — the compartment of the cell that contains all the genetic information needed to create maintain and ultimately kill the cell — would be about the size of a Volkswagen Beetle. The living-room cell also puts into perspective the various other little devices that cells need to operate: salt- and sugar-exchange mechanisms to provide energy and mineral balance inside, the means by which cells

ingest other nutrients they need, and how cells generate the energy "batteries" they need to run by enzymatic conversion of nutrients, all within special energy-producing components with their own genes, the mitochondria.

A second pedagogical metaphor used repeatedly to the reader's advantage is the concept that the body of an organism should be viewed as a "republic of cells" in which "a huge colony of extraordinarily selfless citizens" (the cells) have each forsaken an independent existence to create the self-sustaining individual. This same idea then helps the understanding of what happens when individual cells "revolt" and undergo changes to "pursue renegade causes," escaping from the environments where they were born and worked and establishing colonies in new locations, eventually devoting more and more of their time to replication, becoming cancer.

This book will be extremely useful for scientists who need good examples of how to describe their complicated work simply enough for the interested public to understand.

Floyd E. Bloom, editor in chief of Science, wrote this for The Washington Post.

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

IS bridge legal? There was some doubt about it in San Francisco recently when seven police officers burst into the San Francisco Bridge Club shouting: "Don't anybody move! This is a raid!" They interrupted three tables of Chicago, two playing for a penny a point stake and one for a mickel.

One woman thought it was a hold up, but started laughing when she heard "Police!" Fourteen players were cited for being on premises where gambling was taking place,

and the club's owner, August Hunte, was also cited for using gambling equipment.

This reportedly happened because a disgruntled player, who complained that other players were using his parking space, wrote to the mayor's office to report gambling. His letter was given to the police.

Dennis Koby is an occasional player at the San Francisco club who was surprised to be told that he had been breaking the law. He reports that the case was dropped by the District Attorney.

On the diagrammed deal played at the San Francisco

Club, North was certainly gambling, in the nonpecuniary sense, with his second-round raise of three clubs to four clubs. If he had rebid his spades, Koby as South would have bid four hearts, reaching an easy contract.

The four-club bid, in principle showing four-card support, provoked Blackwood, leading to a shaky six-club contract. After a diamond lead and a trump return, South was able to establish hearts with one ruff, draw trumps and make his slam, worth \$13.70 at a penny a point. All the cards were lying favorably.

NORTH
♠ A 6 7 8 5 4
♥ 7 2
♦ 6 5 3
♣ Q J 10 9

WEST
♠ Q 8 3 2
♥ Q 10 8 4
♦ 10 9 8 5 4
♣ 7 6 4

EAST
♠ K J 10
♥ 6 7 3
♦ A Q J 3
♣ 5 5 3

SOUTH (DE)
♠ 9
♥ A K J 10 6 5
♦ K 7
♣ A K J 3

Both sides were vulnerable. The bidding: South 1♥, West 1♠, North 2♣, South 3♣, West 3♦, North 4♣, South 4♣, West 4♣, North 5♣, South 6♣. West led the diamond ten.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Greta who never actually said "I want to be alone"
- 6 Howled like a hound
- 11 This instant Extraterrestrial
- 15 Poppy's sweetie
- 16 Gardner of Tinseltown
- 17 Restaurant gadabout
- 18 Blend
- 20 Peaky insects
- 21 Christians' Creed
- 22 Surfeit
- 23 Made fractions
- 27 Fold, as paper
- 28 One-dimensional
- 29 Forebodings
- 30 Zippy flavors
- 31 Unstated moral
- 34 Cheney Jr. and Sr.
- 35 Hatz's state
- 36 Fencing blade
- 37 Dehydrated
- 38 Star-to-be
- 39 Montreal baseballers
- 40 Held responsible (for)
- 42 "Accept the situation"
- 43 Bing Crosby or Rudy Vallee, e.g.
- 44 Penny-pinching
- 45 Coarse-toothed tool
- 47 Stun gun
- 48 Egyptian snake
- 49 Dazzling performer
- 50 Victory sign
- 51 Cassette
- 52 Speak
- 53 Se mislaskan
- 54 Bewildered
- 55 Former Russian sovereigns
- 56 Despoils
- 57 Spy org.
- 58 Child, as a child
- 59 Knight's protection
- 60 Adolescent rock fan
- 61 Mel's, for one
- 62 Lollid

DOWN

- 1 Gangster's gun
- 2 Chicken — king
- 3 Barbecued treat
- 4 Antwerp residents
- 5 Urly
- 6 Pirates' plunder
- 7 Zurich's peaks
- 8 Sharp bark
- 9 Periods just past sunset
- 10 Inters
- 11 Egotistical conversationalist
- 12 Sheeplike
- 13 Line shiny floors
- 14 Despoils
- 15 Spy org.
- 16 Child, as a child
- 17 Knight's protection
- 18 Adolescent rock fan
- 19 Mel's, for one
- 20 Lollid
- 21 Despoils
- 22 Spy org.
- 23 Child, as a child
- 24 Knight's protection
- 25 Adolescent rock fan
- 26 Mel's, for one
- 27 Lollid
- 28 Despoils
- 29 Spy org.
- 30 Child, as a child
- 31 Knight's protection
- 32 Adolescent rock fan
- 33 Mel's, for one
- 34 Lollid
- 35 Despoils
- 36 Spy org.
- 37 Child, as a child
- 38 Knight's protection
- 39 Adolescent rock fan
- 40 Mel's, for one
- 41 Lollid
- 42 Despoils
- 43 Spy org.
- 44 Child, as a child
- 45 Knight's protection
- 46 Adolescent rock fan
- 47 Mel's, for one
- 48 Lollid
- 49 Despoils
- 50 Spy org.
- 51 Child, as a child
- 52 Knight's protection
- 53 Adolescent rock fan
- 54 Mel's, for one
- 55 Lollid
- 56 Despoils
- 57 Spy org.
- 58 Child, as a child
- 59 Knight's protection
- 60 Adolescent rock fan
- 61 Mel's, for one
- 62 Lollid

Solution to Puzzle of April 18

1. GRETCHEN
2. CHICKEN
3. BARBECUED
4. ANTWERP
5. URLY
6. PIRATES
7. ZURICH
8. SHARP
9. PERIODS
10. INTERS
11. EGOTISTICAL
12. SHEEP
13. LINE
14. DESPOILS
15. SPY
16. CHILD
17. KNIGHT
18. ADOLESCENT
19. MEL
20. LOLLID
21. DESPOILS
22. SPY
23. CHILD
24. KNIGHT
25. ADOLESCENT
26. MEL
27. LOLLID
28. DESPOILS
29. SPY
30. CHILD
31. KNIGHT
32. ADOLESCENT
33. MEL
34. LOLLID
35. DESPOILS
36. SPY
37. CHILD
38. KNIGHT
39. ADOLESCENT
40. MEL
41. LOLLID
42. DESPOILS
43. SPY
44. CHILD
45. KNIGHT
46. ADOLESCENT
47. MEL
48. LOLLID
49. DESPOILS
50. SPY
51. CHILD
52. KNIGHT
53. ADOLESCENT
54. MEL
55. LOLLID
56. DESPOILS
57. SPY
58. CHILD
59. KNIGHT
60. ADOLESCENT
61. MEL
62. LOLLID

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INTERNATIONAL

BRIEFLY

Saddam's Son Has Surgery To Remove Bullet Near Spine

BAGHDAD — Saddam Hussein's eldest son underwent surgery Sunday to remove at least one bullet lodged near his spine after an assassination attempt in December, government officials said.

The officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said a French and German medical team operated on the 33-year-old Oday Hussein earlier in the day. They said his condition appeared to be stable, but declined to give further details. Mr. Hussein was to appear on Iraqi television Sunday night, they said.

Mr. Hussein, who had been widely believed to be Mr. Saddam's heir apparent, was shot about 10 times while waiting alone in a car in an upscale Baghdad suburb on Dec. 12.

Iraqi dissidents have said at least one bullet was lodged near Mr. Hussein's spine and that French and Iraqi doctors had hesitated to operate, fearing surgery might leave him paralyzed. But Mr. Hussein had asked the doctors to operate anyway, they said. (AP)

Skirmish at Azerbaijani Border

MOSCOW — Soldiers traded fire across the border between Armenia and Azerbaijan over the weekend, killing or wounding about 50 people, Azerbaijani military personnel told the Interfax news agency Sunday.

On Saturday, the Itar-Tass press agency quoted the Azerbaijan Defense Ministry as saying that Armenians used artillery in the Kazakh region of western Azerbaijan early Saturday. It said that several people were killed or wounded, but did not specify how many.

The Armenian Defense Ministry said that Azerbaijani soldiers fired into Armenian territory in the Taush region in eastern Armenia, wounding three. Armenian armed forces then retaliated, it said.

The two countries are in a dispute over Azerbaijan's enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh, which is populated mostly by Armenians. (AFP)

Winnie Mandela Selling Soil

JOHANNESBURG — Winnie Mandela is selling bottles of soil from the house in Soweto she shared in the 1950s with her former husband, President Nelson Mandela, the Johannesburg Sunday Times said.

Bottles cost 50 rand (\$11) and come with a certificate of authenticity signed by Winnie Mandela and a history of the house, in the Orlando section of Soweto, Johannesburg's sprawling satellite township.

Mrs. Mandela, whom the president divorced last year, saying she had an affair with a young lawyer, appears to be cashing in on tourism to the tiny house she shared with her former husband when he was a young activist.

The report said around 100 people a day visited the four-room house, which is in the same neighborhood as the homes of former Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the veteran anti-apartheid campaigner, Walter Sisulu. (AFP)

Fujimori Names Interior Chief

LIMA — President Alberto Fujimori of Peru has named General Cesar Saucedo as interior minister after the resignation of Juan Briones, who acknowledged that security lapses allowed rebels to storm the Japanese ambassador's home in Lima and hold 72 hostages since December.

Mr. Briones and the police chief, Ketin Vidal, who also



NARCOTICS ARREST — The capture of Colombia's most wanted drug trafficker, Justo Pastor Paredes, here with his former wife, Lina Adriana Ruiz, was reported by Venezuelan police, who said they tracked him down near the Colombia border.

resigned Saturday, were facing mounting criticism over the failure by security services to prevent the assault by Tupac Amaru Movement guerrillas on Dec. 17.

"We recognize that there were security lapses in the takeover of the Japanese residence," Mr. Briones said.

General Saucedo previously served as commander of the second military district, which includes Lima. (Reuters)

U.S. and Ecuador Warplanes Spar

QUITO, Ecuador — U.S. officials have asserted that Ecuadoran Air Force fighters intercepted an American Navy plane and fired a warning shot, an incident that Ecuador said was a case of mistaken identity.

The U.S. Embassy said Friday that a U.S. Navy P-3 Orion was intercepted by two Mirage fighter-bombers last Tuesday about 38 miles (60 kilometers) off the coast of Ecuador. One of the Ecuadoran planes fired a warning shot parallel to the flying direction of the U.S. aircraft, the embassy said. No one was hurt and the aircraft was not damaged, the embassy said.

Defense Minister Ramiro Ricuarte implied Saturday that no warning shot had been fired. He said the Ecuadoran pilots followed standard procedure in intercepting what they saw as an unidentified aircraft and that both countries were taking steps to ensure the incident was not repeated.

He said that after the U.S. aircraft was identified, the two Ecuadoran planes returned to their base and the U.S. plane "continued its trip toward Panama." (AP)

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A BLOODY LIE!

The modern version of the age-old "blood libel" was uttered on March 11, 1997 in Geneva by the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights:

the Israeli authorities have infected by injection 300 Palestinian children with the HIV virus during the years of the Intifada.

Ambassador Nabil Ramlawi

The above was stated at a session before 500 people, including delegates of 53 states. The Israelis and the United States protested this blatant lie. The European Community has done nothing. Neither the United Nations nor any of its Member States has denounced on the record this deplorable act, nor have they ensured that the official record be amended appropriately. Furthermore, Mr. Ramlawi has not withdrawn this lie.

The issues at stake are too grave to allow the matter to be swept quietly under the rug.

On the eve of Passover, the Anti-Defamation League calls for the Secretary General of the United Nations, the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, the Arab Nations, and the rest of the international community to speak out to correct the record and not let stand a vehicle for promoting anti-Semitism.

David H. Strassler
National Chairman



Abraham H. Foxman
National Director

Anti-Defamation League, 823 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017 • www.adl.org

EDITORIALS/OPINION

Herald Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

Fixing the World Bank

There is no one, it seems, including the leadership of the World Bank, who does not think that it urgently needs reform. Some point to the very mixed record of foreign aid. A recent study from the World Bank itself notes that aid to governments that are following sound economic policies can be helpful, but that aid to regimes going in the wrong direction is wasted — and too often the bank and other donors have poured money into the wrong regimes, for years and years.

Moreover, thanks to the globalization of the economy, private investment flows to developing countries are five times larger than World Bank and all other official development assistance. From the fact of this energized private market, there are some asking: Who even needs official help?

The answer to this last question is: lots of countries. The private flows go overwhelmingly to the rich or so countries, mostly the fast-developing nations of Southeast Asia. Dozens more, in Africa and elsewhere, get almost none and still depend on official aid. Unfortunately, as the World Bank points out in an admirably candid self-portrait, it has not lived up to their needs. Not keeping up with the changing world economy "has resulted, over time, in a severe deterioration — indeed a crisis — in our effective-

ness," the bank admits. Fully one-third of its projects end unsatisfactorily.

Now, in what may prove the bank's last chance, it has launched a program of radical "renewal." Given how many reorganizations the bank has been subjected to over the years, it is not surprising that there is skepticism among many. But the bank's president, James D. Wolfensohn, has pointed this reform in the right direction.

He is seeking to move people and resources from Washington out to the front lines. He wants more emphasis on health, education and rural development — the social services essential to economic growth. He has recognized the need to fight corruption and build legal and financial institutions — to help nations develop the conditions, in other words, that will attract those ever growing private investment flows.

Whether this latest reform succeeds will depend in large part on whether the bank proves able to help nations that are pursuing reform — and walk away from corrupt regimes that are not. That success is far from sure. But the United States, the bank's largest contributor, is right to support the effort. A thriving World Bank can promote U.S. interests throughout the world, relieving pressure on the U.S. bilateral aid budget and maximizing the impact of U.S. help.

—THE WASHINGTON POST

Major's Surrender

Surrendering to a revolt by the isolationist, anti-European wing of his Conservative Party, Prime Minister John Major seems prepared to turn the remaining two weeks of his faltering reelection campaign into a Europe-bashing crusade. That is regrettable. Mr. Major's centrist leadership on Europe and other issues was one of the Conservatives' strongest selling points.

Even though he is raising the rhetoric against Europe, Mr. Major will find it hard to define sharp differences on Europe between the Conservative platform, which he still endorses, and that of the front-running Labour Party, led by Tony Blair. On most questions affecting the degree of Britain's future economic and political integration into the European Union, the parties have staked out virtually identical, cautious positions.

Labour and the Conservatives both officially say they will await the results of future negotiations before deciding whether Britain will join the single European currency scheduled to be launched in 1999. Both parties are highly skeptical of any early British entry into the system, and both promise that any eventual entry would be subject to a national referendum.

Britain's most passionate battles over Europe generally take place within its main parties, not between them. The last time Labour was in power, two decades ago, it was bitterly divided into factions for and against continued

British membership. Six years ago, rebel Conservatives voted Margaret Thatcher out of office after concluding that her unyielding anti-European fervor had become an electoral liability.

The latest Conservative revolt comes from the opposite direction, from those hostile to integration with Europe. More than 200 Conservative candidates said they would ignore the party platform and vote in Parliament to stay out of the European currency under any circumstances, no matter what terms Mr. Major managed to negotiate.

Unlike the tenacious Mrs. Thatcher, Mr. Major chose to yield rather than fight. He announced that the rebels would be free to vote against his own recommendations if they wanted to. Such a free vote is unusual in Britain's parliamentary system. With a popular referendum on the issue promised anyway, his concession may have limited practical significance. But it badly undermines his leadership credentials.

Mr. Major covered his own backpedaling by warning that crafty European negotiators would somehow trick the diplomatically untested Mr. Blair into violating Labour's pledges of caution on European integration. Chancellor Helmut Kohl and President Jacques Chirac, he predicted, would "eat Mr. Blair for breakfast and digest him for lunch." At this point, however, it is only the Conservative isolationists who appear to be salvaging.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES

Meet the Dalai Lama

The Dalai Lama is coming to Washington this week and would like to talk to President Bill Clinton about what the United States can do to help ease China's tightening stranglehold on his country, Tibet. But, fearful of annoying China, Mr. Clinton is reluctant to have a formal meeting with this worldwide symbol of peace and reconciliation.

On Friday, the president met with Martin Lee, Hong Kong's leading democracy activist. But he declined a full meeting and instead merely dropped into a meeting between Mr. Lee and Vice President Al Gore.

The Dalai Lama's spiritual leadership has prevented violence in Tibet. He does not call for Tibetan independence, as many want, but merely autonomy. He would like the United States to take a more active role in promoting dialogue between him and the leaders in Beijing, a dialogue that the Clinton administration supports. He also would like the president to press Beijing to stop flooding Tibet with ethnic Chinese.

Beijing is trying to dilute Tibetan opposition by paying people from other regions extraordinarily high salaries and perks if they move there. Tibet's major cities are now largely Chinese, and many Tibetans feel that their culture is being drowned.

President George Bush met with the Dalai Lama, but Mr. Clinton has only dropped into his meetings with others.

After these drop-bys, photographs are not distributed until days later, which dampens news coverage. White House officials say the Dalai Lama will meet someone in the White House next week, but if it is the president it will likely be in a drop-by.

Last month the White House declined to welcome José Ramos Horta, an East Timor activist and Nobel Peace Prize winner, because it would have angered East Timor's occupier, Indonesia. Men like Mr. Ramos Horta, Martin Lee and the Dalai Lama deserve a bear hug from the president. The White House's timidity only encourages China and Indonesia to continue their bullying.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES

Other Comment
Get Away With Murder?

After a three-year trial, a German court has accused Iran's top leaders of flagrantly violating international law. Something more than a symbolic wrist slap is required if law-abiding nations are to maintain their credibility. Iran's government stands accused of directing political murders on German soil. If some significant retribution is not exacted, Tehran will only conclude that it can get away with murder. The ugly truth is it will be right.

—Los Angeles Times

High Pay, Low Pay: What's the Rationale?

By Richard Harwood

WASHINGTON — The Wall Street Journal and Business Week have published this month surveys of the compensation received by top executives of 350 of America's biggest corporations. The median compensation of these executives was \$2.375 million, about 60 times greater than the median family income of \$40,000 in the United States.

Wage and salary inequalities are common in America, even among corporate executives. Sanford Weill of the Travelers Group was paid \$94 million in 1996; other corporate chiefs settled for considerably less than a million.

Capitalist theory holds that the "invisible hand" of the marketplace determines these outcomes — supply, demand, competition. Perhaps that is true. But it is obvious that a lot of other social and cultural factors are at work here.

The president of the United States presumably holds the most demanding office in the land. He is paid \$200,000 a year. The convicted felon Mike Tyson is a boxer, of whom there are many and whose line of work has no particular significance to the fate or enrichment of humankind. He was paid \$75 million last year for less than three hours of mediocre work in the ring.

It is widely believed, with good reason, that a society's future prosperity and well-being depend on the education of its citizens. This is not reflected in the compensation tables. The president of Harvard University was paid \$250,000 in 1995, the average college professor about \$50,000 and the pres-

ident of Tuskegee Institute \$11,569. The Aerosmith rock music group signed an \$84 million recording deal.

Philip Knight, president of Nike, earned \$1.8 million last year. But that was peanuts compared with the sums Mr. Knight and Nike paid to various athletes for endorsements. Tiger Woods got a \$40 million endorsement contract even before the Masters golf tournament. Endorsements and a Chicago Bulls paycheck will bring Michael Jordan an estimated \$100 million this year, on top of the \$224.5 million he earned from 1990 through 1996.

Why is that the case? Is the invisible hand at work here?

In some occupations there is a lot of leveling — in the military, for example, and government in general, which employs 20 million people. Cabinet members and the top ranks of the federal bureaucracy are paid only marginally less than the president.

And the gulf between the president's pay and the average federal salary (\$40,000 plus in 1995) is not monstrous. The same is true of state and local governments; with overtime, big-city police officers and sanitation workers are known to have earned up to \$100,000, putting them on a par with some mayors and governors.

Education is another field in which income disparities exist but are far less exaggerated than in the corporate world. In public school systems last

year, superintendents earned, on average, \$94,229, while teachers earned an average of \$38,706.

The picture is much the same in higher education, although there are exceptions in which employees earn considerably more than their superiors. Cornell paid its president \$165,000 (including benefits) in 1995, but paid five professors in its medical school salaries ranging from \$1 million to \$1.8 million. That is also the situation at Columbia University and at Georgetown, where the president's salary of \$318,000 was exceeded by those of five medical school teachers.

The occupations in which multimillion-dollar incomes have become commonplace are professional sports and the entertainment industry. In the past five years, Forbes magazine reports, the heavyweight fighter Evander Holyfield earned \$177.8 million. Arnold Palmer \$82.4 million. Shaquille O'Neal \$78.2 million. Andre Agassi \$74.8 million. Jack Nicklaus \$74.6 million.

As for entertainment, Oprah Winfrey earned \$97 million in 1996. Steven Spielberg earned \$150 million for two years' work. The Beatles in the past two years have earned \$130 million. Michael Jackson \$90 million. The Rolling Stones \$77 million. Arnold Schwarzenegger \$74 million. Jim Carrey \$63 million.

Technology has a lot to do with this. The advent of television created mass markets for athletes, entertainers and the corporate advertisers who pay the bills. It created a great demand for other laborers in that vineyard. Somebody

has to preside over "Monday Night Football." Somebody has to write those sitcoms and dramas.

So Michael Crichton earned \$39 million in the past two years from made-for-movie books, screenplays and the television series "ER." VCRs and home sound systems created secondary markets that brought music and films into every home and made pop and country music stars rich.

People who populate the news media, in which income disparities are often discussed, know the subject from personal experience. Television news pays national stars millions of dollars, but those seeking their fortunes in television or radio news would do well to look at the fine print. The median salary of news anchors in small television markets is \$23,500 a year; in the largest markets it is \$90,000. Radio news salaries are lower. The median pay of news anchors in major markets is \$26,000 and in small markets \$13,000.

The newspaper business is much the same. The salaries of editors in 1996 ranged from \$16,500 in a small town to \$432,419 in a big city, a sum 10 times greater than the average family income and 25 times greater than for rookie reporters on small newspapers.

An odd thing about the tremendous inequalities in income and wealth is that two-thirds of the American people, getting by on very modest incomes relative to the several million millionaires among us, declare that they are living the "American dream."

The Washington Post

Lott's Choice: It's Henry Cabot Lodge or Arthur Vandenberg

By Stanley A. Weiss

WASHINGTON — This week the Senate decides whether the United States continues to lead the free world. If the Chemical Weapons Convention is voted down, there will not be a multinational agreement on nuclear or biological weapons for years.

The debate on the convention, which bans production and use of chemical weapons, is not about U.S. chemical weapons. In an act of unilateral disarmament, the United States began destroying its entire stockpile under a 1985 law signed by President Ronald Reagan.

The Chemical Weapons Convention will simply make it an international crime for those nations who do not follow America's lead. The significance of the treaty is as a model for putting

teeth into existing biological and nuclear weapons agreements that presently have little or no enforcement regimes.

But the overriding importance of the convention is its choice it represents: Will the United States continue to enter into multilateral agreements, or take the position of going it alone in its dealings with friend and foe alike? If extremists take over the Republican Party, and the Chemical Weapons Convention is not ratified, are NATO, the World Trade Organization, the World Bank, and the United Nations far behind?

The last time the Senate rejected a treaty that had such a far-reaching effect on American foreign policy was in the aftermath of World War I. In 1920, the Treaty of Versailles, with its League of Nations Covenant, was voted down when Republican Senator Henry Cabot Lodge set conditions that Democratic President Woodrow Wilson felt he could not accept. Isolationism triumphed, and America turned inward.

It was not until after World War II that the United States charted a new course that would determine American foreign policy for the next half century. Republican Arthur Vandenberg, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, put aside his isolationism to make common cause with Democratic President Harry Truman. The defining moment for their bi-

partisan coalition was the Marshall Plan. That recovery program helped rebuild Europe. The United States had never appeared so great or so generous.

Now, once again after a war (this time the Cold War), America is at a crossroads. Will it return to the extremist policies it followed after the World War I or demonstrate the generosity of spirit that animated American foreign policy after World War II and contained and then defeated the Soviet Union?

The chemical convention presents such a choice. All 45 Senate Democrats and many Republicans support it, but are probably not enough for the 67 votes required for passage. Those Republicans sitting on the fence are waiting for a clear signal from their majority

leader, Trent Lott. He has the burden of choosing sides in this battle for the soul of the Republican Party.

The treaty is not a favor to President Bill Clinton or the Democrats. It is a key security instrument for the American people and a signal to the rest of the world. If he follows in the tradition of Arthur Vandenberg and every Republican president since Dwight Eisenhower, Senator Lott will usher in a new era in American leadership and cooperation among free nations.

The writer is founder and chairman of Business Executives for National Security, an organization of U.S. business leaders. He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

ASEAN Shouldn't Admit Cambodia, Laos and Burma Now

By Philip Bowring

HONG KONG — The situation in Cambodia has become so unstable that it could provide a plausible reason for the Association of South East Asian Nations to delay entry of Cambodia, Laos and Burma.

ASEAN could do the right thing without appearing to back down in the face of Western pressure not to admit Burma while its human rights record remains abysmal and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is excluded from the political process.

It is not necessary to have

views on the outcome of the present struggle between Hun Sen and Prince Norodom Ranariddh, the divisions within the royalist party or the post-Sihanouk role of the monarchy, to acknowledge that Cambodia's politics is likely to remain unstable and spasmodically violent at least in the short term.

The Cambodian issue, like that of Burma, should cause ASEAN members to ask: What is the goal of the organization?

It may be better for the group to travel hopefully than to arrive too soon at the point where it encompasses all 10 of the region's states but loses sight of its original objective.

Membership of all is the goal, but it should not be an end in itself. ASEAN is not like the European Union, with detailed rules, but its strength hitherto has been an uncontroversial common identity.

There is a more important

agenda than size. First, that ASEAN speak with authority and respect in dealings with the outside world, notably the United States, European Union and China. Second, that its bold efforts to achieve closer economic integration, primarily through the ambitious ASEAN Free Trade Area, not be slowed.

The entry of Vietnam has been difficult enough for ASEAN. The economic and political structure of a still Communist state sits uneasily with the traditionally open economies of the original members. ASEAN has also been weakened by its reluctance to support Vietnam in its problems with China's South China Sea claims, even though several members face the same challenges.

Vietnam has a stable government, accorded respect by the outside world. Neither Burma or Cambodia can claim that. Their admission now would weaken the organization's voice in dealings with the West.

ASEAN strength has rested on the stability of most of its members' political systems. The new three, Burma in particular, would exacerbate the problems of economic integration. Laos and Cambodia are small enough to be easily integrated, but populous Burma will be very difficult until its internal politics and economic structures have changed radically.

Burma is the first case in which ASEAN membership is a

matter of serious and popular contention within other members. Not only is Daw Aung San Suu Kyi opposed to membership while the present regime rules, so are many in the Philippines. Opposition groups in Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand have expressed similar views.

It can be argued that doing business with the Rangoon regime is one way to change it. So far the biggest business has been in drugs, the main source of capital in Burma. But assuming that more reputable business can also prosper, those relationships can be developed on a bilateral basis. ASEAN membership can wait until business relationships have borne sufficient economic fruit.

This is no time for ASEAN to squander its energies and influence on an undeserving Burmese junta. ASEAN has an urgent and important role in influencing the West in its attitude to China, as well as in better defining its own relations with China. It has an important economic agenda with Europe. Also, some members face greater domestic political or economic uncertainties than has been the case for at least a decade.

Burmese membership would undermine ASEAN's internal unity and external respect. The Cambodian mess provides the association with an opportunity to follow a policy defined by its own interests.

International Herald Tribune

Too Busy to Help the President

By Maureen Dowd

WASHINGTON — There have been other snubs of historic proportion. There was the time the wife of Mayor Ralph Perk of Cleveland turned down an invitation to a Nixon White House dinner because it was her bowling night. Still, as snubs go, this one was pretty impressive.

The leader of the free world offered to send an Air Force plane to pick up Tiger Woods so he could come to Shea Stadium to honor Jackie Robinson, the most important African-American athlete in history. It would have been an amazing moment: the new legend who effortlessly broke a color line in golf taking a moment to genuflect to the old legend who courageously broke the color line in baseball — 50 years earlier.

But the 21-year-old who is often described as the Jackie Robinson of golf blew off Jackie Robinson — and the Fan in Chief. He had more pressing matters following his dazzling Masters triumph.

On Monday he flew to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, and Atlantic City to snip ribbons at the openings of official All-Star Cafes, which he owns with other sports stars.

He also had to powwow with his agent, Hughes Norton of IMG Sports Marketing, about a cascade of sponsorship offers that could go nicely with his \$60 million Nike and Titleist deals and his plans for Tiger Woods watches, sportswear, golf clubs and autobiography.

On Tuesday he took off for a vacation in Mexico with a few old Stanford buddies.

"There's no bigger hero to anybody than Jackie Robinson

is to Tiger Woods," says Mr. Norton, speaking from his cell phone in Cleveland. "But the president's request would have required Tiger being in Mexico on Wednesday noon instead of Tuesday morning."

Instead of going to the Trump Taj Mahal Casino Resort in Atlantic City to open his cafe and hang out with Whoopi Goldberg and Luke Perry, Mr. Woods could have hung out with his fans at Anderson High Junior High School in Flatbush, where the president stopped on the way to Shea Stadium.

John Feinstein, who wrote "A Good Walk Spoiled: Days and Nights on the PGA Tour," and who refers to IMG as "I Am Greedy," thought Mr. Woods's decision not to go sullied the elegance of his Masters tribute to older black players. "I guess he feels, with some justification, that right now he's the bulletproof."

GQ magazine wrote that the selling of Tiger Woods by IMG and his father has been offensively messianic. At first, Tiger emphasized his multiracial background. But then his management team and Nike decided to push him as a healer who could change the world. "a racial pioneer along the lines of Jackie Robinson, Muhammad Ali and Arthur Ashe."

It is perplexing why a young man with such a long "self life," as his agent puts it, could not have paused on the merchandising mania for a couple of days. After all, he says he is eager to be a role model. But on second thought,

by putting himself ahead of history, he is a role model for what our society cares about.

President Bill Clinton brought this on himself. He has done the political equivalent of an athlete plastering himself with sponsorship logos. He has tirelessly marketed the presidency and piggybacked on the aura of Olympians and celebrity athletes.

Mr. Woods probably sees the president as just one more person trying to cash in. Mr. Norton said that when Mr. Clinton was on his Australian tour last December, Mr. Woods got several calls from the White House asking if he would consider playing a round of golf with the president. But before final arrangements were made, Mr. Clinton showed up on the links with Greg Norman.

"Tiger found it a little curious that he wasn't important enough to be with the president until he won the Masters," Mr. Norton said. With one swat at a president who is a lame duck, a grand jury magnet and a groupie, Mr. Woods made clear who is the more valuable commodity.

"We talked about the pros and cons, hey, this will be perceived as snubbing the president, when the president calls most people drop everything, blah, blah, blah," Mr. Norton said. "But this is a tribute to Tiger Woods's single-mindedness and individuality that he was able to say, 'Hey, this is something that's been scheduled for a long time.'"

These two guys should get together on the green. They have a lot in common.

The New York Times

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1897: Spoken English

PARIS — [The Herald says in an Editorial:] The Review of Reviews suggests the creation of an "English Academy," on the same lines as the Académie Française as one of the means of celebrating the coming Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Victoria. The idea is to mitigate the great difficulty which English-speaking people find in satisfying themselves regarding the correct pronunciation of certain words of their own language. A German professor said, "English should be the language of the future if the pronunciation could only be made rational or even uniform."

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The New York Times

step would be desirable, as the League of Nations could not bring about the reign of peace until Russia and Germany, which make up half of Europe, form part of an international organization expressly created to maintain general peace.

1947: Ban on Hugs?

MEXICO CITY — Hugs and kisses between incoming air travelers and local friends at Mexico City's Central Airport will not be permitted under a decree issued by the Department of Civil Aeronautics. The department said it was considering adoption of a policy already in force in London refusing air passengers the right of an embrace before they pass through customs. The department said British authorities had found many persons were using the embrace to exchange contraband to avoid payment of duties.

1922: Peace League

GENOA — In his speech to-day [April 20], Mr. Lloyd George said, discussing the admission of Germany and Russia into the League of Nations, that such a

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INTERNATIONAL

Hills Hold Secrets of Wartime Atrocities That Still Haunt Italian Port

By Chris Hedges
New York Times Service

TRIESTE, Italy — The cavernous pits and gorges scattered throughout the hills above this port city hold dark secrets from the twilight days of World War II, secrets that still disturb Italy and its Balkan neighbors.

The pits, covered with tons of debris, are believed to hold hundreds, perhaps thousands, of corpses. The bodies are those of Italians and Yugoslavs who opposed the Yugoslav Communist takeover of the city in May 1945, along with scores of captured Germans. But attempts to investigate have gone nowhere.

"It is impossible to consider exhuming the bodies," said a University of Trieste historian, Gianpaolo Valdevit. "It's just too controversial, too painful. This is a chapter of the war people in the city are not ready to reopen. There are only a few of us ready to investigate this dispassionately."

Members of the Slav minority in Trieste, who

often deny that the killings took place, and the old Italian Communists who see the massacres as an embarrassment, have been able to block any investigation. The Italian right, which says that 20,000 Italians were killed here — a figure most scholars call greatly inflated — is reluctant to see its figures dismissed by any exhumations.

In May 1945, Tito's Communist Partisans in Yugoslavia, after a bitter guerrilla war against the German and Croatian fascists, pursued the retreating forces toward Italy. The Partisan army seized the Istrian Peninsula, in the southern Adriatic, and raced on toward Trieste.

Their 40-day occupation of Trieste and hunt for German soldiers, Italian and Croatian fascists and suspected opponents of communism nearly led to a clash with Allied forces. In June, the Yugoslavs withdrew to the hinterlands.

For the next nine years, Trieste was under a British and U.S. military government. It was handed back to Italy in 1954. Today, the city has 230,000 people, many of them from Italian families who were forced out of Yugoslavia after the

war. The Italian rightist National Alliance party, which received 24 percent of the vote in Trieste's last elections, cites the massacres and the expulsions as a way to fan sentiment against the city's ethnic Slav minority, who make up about 30 percent of the population.

Most of them, Slovene-speaking Italians, teach their children in local Slovene schools about the fascist repression, when their language was banned and Slavs were purged from government jobs. Samo Pahor, a prominent Slovene here, said, "The stories about the Partisan massacres of Italians are not true."

Trieste in May 1945 was a chaotic city filled with cornered German, Croatian and Italian soldiers who continued to fight despite Italy's capitulation in 1943. Scores of accused fascists were paraded daily by the Partisans through the cobblestone streets to Yugoslav military courts. Most were quickly condemned to death and shot, or thrown alive into gorges and pits around the city.

Many Slovenes in Trieste at the time, ecstatic at the downfall of Italian fascism, greeted the

Partisans as liberators and assisted in manhunt by the Yugoslav secret police.

During the occupation, at least 3,500 residents of Trieste, along with an unknown number of Yugoslavs, Italians and Germans who washed up there, were killed and thrown into the fissures, or foibles, of the Carso mountain range, the eastern end of the Italian Alps.

Thousands more were deported, and many perished in Yugoslav detention camps, according to allied officers and historians who investigated the killings.

A secret British-U.S. intelligence report of September 1945, made public a few years ago, is filled with accounts by witnesses to Partisan atrocities.

A Roman Catholic priest, Don Sceck, told the investigators that a group of 150 fascists were swiftly sentenced and then mowed down by Partisan troops with machine guns on May 2, 1945, in Basovizza, a small Slovene-speaking village just outside Trieste. The corpses, he said, were thrown into the huge Basovizza foibe, now

a memorial to the victims. The next day he saw a group of about 250 prisoners at the mouth of the Basovizza pit.

"These persons were questioned and tried in the presence of all the populace, who accused them," the priest said in the report. "The accused persons were beaten and struck, and always admitted the crimes ascribed to them."

When Tito broke with the Soviet Union in 1948, the Western allies, no longer wishing to antagonize Belgrade, did not press the Yugoslavs about the killings.

A treaty signed between Italy and Yugoslavia more than 20 years ago to settle territorial and property disputes was never fully carried out. But Croatia and Slovenia have recently agreed to pay their share of Yugoslavia's restitution for lost Italian property.

But there is a new move, led by Giuseppe Pititto, a prosecutor in Rome, to charge 40 people, 3 of whom are prominent Partisan officials who live in Croatia. The move has been denounced by many Slovenes and Croats.

Seoul Worries Presence of Top Defector May End Talks

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SEOUL — South Korea said Sunday that it hoped the arrival here of the North Korean defector Hwang Jang Yop would not derail prospects for Pyongyang's agreement to peace talks with the South.

"We hope his arrival here will not affect the ongoing talks in New York," the South Korean Foreign Ministry spokesman, Kwon Tae Myon, said. "We will sit down on Monday and wait."

Mr. Kwon said the U.S. side appeared upset by North Korea's failure to show up Saturday for a scheduled meeting in New York and its repeated failure to indicate whether it would accept the peace talks proposal.

"It's too early to predict which way North Korea will go," he said. "We still hope North Korea will give us an answer on Monday."

He said South Korea would attend a meeting with senior North Korean and U.S. diplomats on Monday in New York.

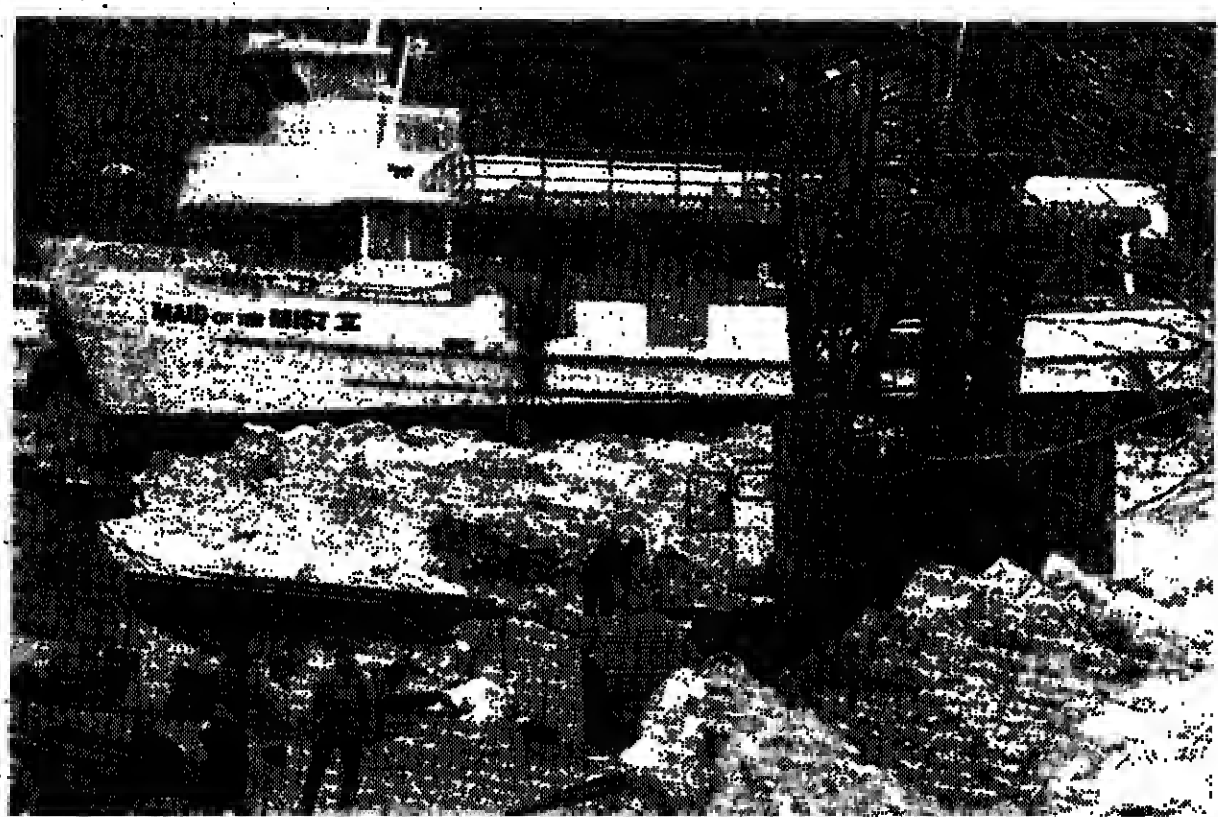
For the second straight day, North Korea failed Saturday to resume scheduled discussions aimed at hearing Pyongyang's formal response to the year-old U.S.-South Korean proposal for four-nation peace talks, which would include China.

North Korean officials, saying they were awaiting directions from Pyongyang, proposed holding another meeting Monday.

The four-nation talks are aimed at securing a lasting peace to replace the truce agreement that halted the 1950-53 Korean War but left the two Koreas technically at war.

The top U.S. envoy to the talks returned to Washington after Pyongyang's emissaries twice failed to show up. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Charles Kartman left a few aides behind in New York to consult with the North Koreans on the possibility of a meeting, Monday, a U.S. official said.

(AFP, Reuters)



RESCUING MAIDS OF THE MIST — A crane being readied Sunday to lift four boats from ice along the shore of the Niagara River in Canada. They were pushed from winter moorings by ice up to 100-feet high.

FRANCE: Chirac Is Expected to Call Elections Before Summer

Continued from Page 1

owned by the government and part of Air France, and the movement has spread to the privately held lines TAT and Air Liberté.

Now truck and bus drivers, who clogged roads at the end of last year, threaten to do so again because the promises of retirement at age 55 that they won then have not been kept.

The latest public opinion poll, published Sunday in the Journal du Dimanche, shows 56 percent of the voting-age population dissatisfied with Mr. Chirac and 61 percent unhappy with Mr. Juppé. Only 31 percent were pleased with Mr. Chirac and 27 percent with the prime minister, with the rest undecided, a picture that has not changed broadly in more than a year.

With the public already in such a sullen mood, aides say, Mr. Chirac fears things

could get even worse next winter and turn an election campaign next spring into a referendum against not only him and his prime minister, but also against closer European union.

From now until next spring, according to this scenario, the conservative majority in Parliament could well lose ground steadily. Mr. Chirac could then find himself squared off against Mr. Jospin as prime minister. The Socialist has been sharply critical of French social sacrifices in the name of European monetary union.

So Mr. Juppé, apparently backed by some of Mr. Chirac's top aides, began urging him to call an election this spring to cut the majority's losses now.

Their advice was buttressed, according to French newspaper reports, by private polls taken for the Interior Ministry last month that showed that the conservatives could hold onto a majority

of 361 of the 577 parliamentary seats if the election were held now.

Those soundings, according to the daily Liberation, which published them, predicted considerable gains for the Socialists, Communists and other parties now in the opposition — but not enough to form a government.

Nobody gave Mr. Jospin a chance of winning the 1995 presidential election against Mr. Chirac either, but Mr. Jospin outpolled him in the first round, and the French stock markets tumbled Friday in anticipation of uncertainty.

Fear of gains by the extreme-right National Front in electoral districts where there is tension between French voters and immigrant populations could also strengthen leftist candidates in the second round of the legislative elections, which French newspaper reports say would be held May 25 and June 1 or June 1 and June 8.

IRAN: U.S. Treads Water as Tehran Girds

Continued from Page 1

security advisers, write, "U.S. Persian Gulf policy is at an impasse."

Iran has not developed into the expansionist regional threat that successive administrations predicted. Since the end of the Iran-Iraq War nine years ago, Tehran's effort to rebuild its military and develop a nuclear weapon has been uneven. According to U.S. intelligence estimates, Iran probably spends less than \$1 billion a year on its military — less than half of what it announced in 1992 that it would spend.

But according to U.S. intelligence officials, Iran's most visible and worrisome conventional military buildup has been of its navy, which has greatly expanded its capability in the last decade.

"The navy has received priority across the board," said a senior Pentagon official.

That has coincided with the deployment of an extraordinary U.S. military presence, including a carrier task force and a total of about three dozen vessels in and around the Gulf. Their mission is to enforce economic sanctions against Iraq, to protect the dozens of U.S. and European planes patrolling a flight-exclusion zone over southern Iraq every day and to keep open the sea-lanes that allow much of the world's oil to be shipped.

Iran makes no secret of the fact that it considers itself the predominant force in the Gulf and the United States an unwelcome invader. Its navy has the ability to threaten or even briefly stop shipping of oil out of the Gulf. Its Scud missiles are capable of hitting the administrative headquarters of the 5th Fleet in Bahrain, which has tightened security in light of recent intelligence reports of a terrorist plan to attack U.S. forces there.

In October, the U.S. cruiser Gettysburg was supporting a routine exercise in the Gulf when the Byandor, an Iranian patrol boat, made an unexpected turn and hit it. No Americans were injured; the damage to the Gettysburg was minor, and the Iranian boat quickly withdrew.

But the incident was only one of several close encounters in the last few months. It gave a reminder of the potential for conflict when two navies with vastly different military missions and governments that do not talk to each other are crowded into such a small, highly strategic body of water.

"So far the confrontations have

stayed small and contained," a senior military planner said. "But as Iran's navy builds up, as their exercises get bigger, as we enforce things like sanctions, there's more potential for collisions and we're bound to find the spaces are too small."

During 10 days of land, sea and air war games in the Gulf and the Gulf of Oman in November, Iran for the first time successfully test-fired a Chinese-made anti-ship missile with a range of 100 kilometers (60 miles) from one of its Chinese patrol boats. The missiles, C-802s, give Iran a "360-degree threat which can come at you from basically anywhere at sea in the Persian Gulf or out in the Gulf of Oman," Admiral Scott Redd, the former commander of the U.S. 5th Fleet, said last year.

Iran has also begun to acquire the land-based version of C-802 missiles and is believed to be developing two sites between Bushire and Bandar Abbas to store these and other missiles, Pentagon officials said.

Also, U.S. intelligence officials say they believe that Iran has acquired a small number of rocket-propelled deep-water mines that can surface quickly. This development is worrisome, as the mines make any area in the Gulf a potential Iranian target.

As the Clinton administration struggles with its policy, it has yet to decide whether to try a new initiative with its allies after the April 10 rolling against Iran in Germany, senior administration officials said.

"We are obviously looking at the Mykonos verdict and what we want to do with the Europeans," a White House official said, referring to the restaurant in Berlin where the assassination of the Iranian opposition figures took place. "We are in the midst of formulating what we want to do. What we need to see from the Europeans is some tangible actions and not just diplomatic folderol."

As for possible Iranian involvement in the Saudi Arabia bombing, some U.S. intelligence officials and military planners express doubt there will ever be clear-cut proof. But if such proof was found, there would be extraordinary pressure on President Bill Clinton to retaliate militarily, a senior White House official said.

There is little appetite among American military commanders for a symbolic strike that would have little military impact on Iran.

"We certainly could do something like that militarily," a senior Pentagon official said. "I'm not sure what it would accomplish. Iran would almost certainly respond and it could start a cycle of violence."

Evidence Is 'Incomplete'

The evidence is "incomplete" that Iranian officials had been involved in the bombing of the U.S. military compound in Saudi Arabia last year, Reuters reported Sunday from Washington, quoting Defense Secretary William Cohen.

"So far, the evidence is incomplete," Mr. Cohen said on NBC television.

"There is no conclusive evidence so far," he said.

Asked if the United States would take action against Iran, he said, "If we did confirm it, we have an array of options."

DEFECTOR: In Seoul at Last, Top North Korean Ideologue Warns That Pyongyang Is Close to Starting War

Continued from Page 1

even execution because of his defection.

"Eveo if I combine everybody I love," Mr. Hwang said, he could not compare them "with the destiny and lives of 70 million of my people." He was referring to the combined populations of North and South Korea.

He added, "The only exit for me was to cooperate with my brothers in the South and prevent a war."

Mr. Hwang's arrival was carried live on all major South Korean television networks, which replayed the scene of Mr. Hwang raising his hands and fedora hat and shouting, "Man sel!" — Korean for "Hooray!" The television news carried photos of families gathered around TV sets cheering his arrival at the air base, where families of previous defectors presented him with large bouquets of flowers.

Elaborate security steps were taken to prevent North Korean agents from assassinating Mr. Hwang, a member of the North Korean inner circle who can presumably provide potentially devastating detail about the reclusive and enigmatic ruling cabal in Pyongyang.

During the month Mr. Hwang spent holed up in the consulate in Beijing, North Korean agents lurked in parked cars outside, prompting China to ring the building with soldiers.

Even Sunday, there were worries that North Koreans might try to shoot down the plane that carried Mr. Hwang to Seoul, so South Korean fighter jets buzzed conspicuously overhead, providing extra protection for the air.

At the air base, armored personnel carriers lined up with machine guns, and soldiers on foot were close by. The motorcade that carried Mr. Hwang away included an ambulance — a precaution usually reserved for visiting heads of state.

Mr. Hwang's grim assessment of North Korea today is blunt confirmation that the situation inside the isolated nation is increasingly dire. A famine that could kill millions of people is imminent, and the few eyewitness accounts suggest that tens of thousands may have already starved to death.

The state-run economy is failing fast, and law enforcement officials across

Asia say Pyongyang has apparently turned to selling drugs, arms and counterfeit money to raise desperately needed cash. Observers question whether President Kim Jong Il has control over his nation, and, more distressingly, over the million-man army concentrated along the demilitarized zone that splits the Korean Peninsula, the world's most heavily fortified border.

Many worry that North Korean leaders may see a desperate military attack on South Korea as the only chance to save their rule. Mr. Hwang's statements Sunday only heightened such fears.

"It is a distorted regime," said Mr. Hwang, who taught communist theory to President Kim when he was a student.

"A country that bragged about having established a socialist paradise has turned into a country that begs."

He added, "It rejects talks with South Korea and it is pursuing military confrontation."

Seoul officials have tried to be publicly restrained in their satisfaction over Mr. Hwang's defection, fearing that gloating would only further provoke unpredictable Pyongyang, which has reacted angrily and threatened reprisals over the defection.

U.S. officials have barely spoken about the case, calling it a matter for the two Koreas and China to work out. The officials, who are hoping to draw North Korea into peace talks to ease tensions

on the peninsula, have not wanted to unnecessarily upset Pyongyang.

Mr. Hwang's defection also posed a dilemma for China, which had to choose between the wishes of its old communist ally in Pyongyang, which originally defected Mr. Hwang's return, and its new economic partner in Seoul, which asked for permission to bring him to South Korea.

In the end, China allowed Mr. Hwang to leave but insisted that he spend at least a month in a third country to ease the embarrassment for North Korea.

Mr. Hwang was flown to the Philippines on March 18, where he remained in hiding under heavy security until Sunday.

Privately, some South Korean offi-

cialists expressed delight that Mr. Hwang's two-month odyssey had finally brought him to Seoul. One senior Seoul official called it a "victory" for South Korea "in terms of economy, in terms of ideology and in terms of morality."

From the airport, Mr. Hwang was whisked away for a medical checkup and the beginning of weeks or months of intensive debriefing. Mr. Hwang said he was "ashamed" of his years of helping to build and sustain North Korea.

"I know I cannot compensate for what I have done," he said. "But I am very much concerned with lifting the burden of my debt before I die. If South Koreans allow me, I would like to do everything I can to prevent a war."

MARRIAGE: Surge in Catholic Annulments Raises Questions for Church

Continued from Page 1

54,463 annulments were granted in 1994, the most recent year for which statistics are available, out of 72,744 worldwide. The Catholic Church here spends well over \$20 million each year subsidizing the operations of the marriage tribunals, according to the Canon Law Society, an independent association of church lawyers.

For its high annulment rate, the American church has come under criticism from Pope John Paul II, and from both ends of the spectrum. Conservative traditionalists say the process is too lenient, while liberal reformers say the church should accept that some marriages simply fail and recognize civil divorce.

Tribunal judges say the typical case involves Catholics under 35 who have been married fewer than five years. Almost a quarter of those seeking annulments are divorced non-Catholics who want to convert to Catholicism or to marry a Catholic. The rarer, and more difficult, cases are those involving a couple married a decade or more, who have children and spent at least some happy years together.

"We're more reluctant to look at longtime marriages," said the Reverend David O'Connor, who serves on the tribunal in the Diocese of Washington and teaches courses in marriage at Washington Theological Union. "When people quickly separate, we almost feel by instinct something is wrong."

The issue has become a political embarrassment for Mr. Kennedy as he gears up for a possible run for governor of Massachusetts next year. Sheila Rauch Kennedy is appealing the annulment of her marriage to the Vatican's

highest court. She and Mr. Kennedy, who have twin sons, ended their 12-year marriage in 1991, and the congressman later remarried.

Mrs. Kennedy fought the annulment at every stage. In a new book, she writes that the church declared that her marriage "never existed," and that if she agreed she would be "lying before God" and before her children. Annulment does not make children illegitimate in the eyes of either the church or the civil society.

Mr. Kerry ended his 18-year marriage to Julia Thorne in 1988; they have two grown children. The senator, who resigned in 1995, has applied to the Archdiocese of Washington to annul his first marriage. Ms. Thorne recently opposed the annulment in a letter calling the process "hypocritical, anti-family and dishonest."

In Catholic teaching, matrimony is one of the seven sacraments, which include baptism and penance, that form the principal liturgical rites through which humans experience the love and grace of God. A truly sacramental marriage performed in a Catholic rite is supposed to be indissoluble, even by civil courts. The teaching is based on a saying by Jesus: "What God has joined together, let man not separate."

Until recent decades, divorce was a stigma among Catholics. Before 1977, U.S. Catholics who divorced and remarried without an annulment were automatically excommunicated. That has changed, but it is still true that divorced Catholics who do not receive an annulment may not marry in a Catholic ceremony.

Only one spouse need apply for an annulment, but the other must be informed and allowed to respond. A finalized civil divorce is a prerequisite. Fees are typically about \$450, but

the church says they may be waived or reduced in hardship cases.

The applicant usually begins by talking to a parish priest, deacon or a field advocate, who tries to screen out cases likely to fail. More solid cases are forwarded to the local diocese's marriage tribunal, a panel of church lawyers. While once only priests sat on these tribunals, some dioceses now include women.

The person seeking the annulment is assigned an "advocate" to argue his or her case. On the other side is the defense lawyer for the marriage — the "defender of the bond." The ultimate decision is made by as many as three judges, and automatically re-evaluated by an appeals court. The whole process can take from a year to 18 months, and longer if it is contested.

"Lack of due discretion of judgment" is the basis for about 75 percent of American annulments today, including that of Mr. Kennedy. Divorcees can claim that as a bride or groom they were emotionally immature, or incapable of commitment or fidelity.

Almost half of Catholic marriages end in divorce, the same rate as for other Americans. Of those who applied in 1992 in the United States, according to Vatican statistics, 83 percent received annulments and 2 percent were denied. Fifteen percent of the cases were abandoned by the applicants.

So what becomes of the 90 percent of divorced Catholics who do not bother with annulments? The Canon Law Society says there are "several million baptized and remarried Catholics" estranged from the church because of their marital status. They go to non-Catholic churches, or they do not go to church at all.

Tuesday

STYLE

From Paris to Milan, from New York to Tokyo, fashion editor Suzy Menkes covers the fashion front. With additional reporting on lifestyle issues, the Style section provides up-to-date information on developments in the changing world of creative design.

Every Tuesday in the International Herald Tribune.

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CAPITAL MARKETS ON MONDAY

Manila to Issue 20-Year Bond
As It Expands Credit Market

Bloomberg News

MANILA — Despite a setback on international credit markets last week, the Philippines will push ahead with plans to beef up its credit market by selling its first 20-year Treasury bond Tuesday.

The Bureau of Treasury plans to sell 2 billion pesos (\$75.9 million) of the bonds, putting the Philippines among the few Asian countries with local-currency debt of that maturity.

The sale will take place one week after the central bank, Bangko Sentral Pilipinas, canceled the sale of up to \$1.25 billion of 30-year and 100-year bonds in the United States. The bank

balked at paying the higher interest rates demanded by investors to complete the sale.

"I don't expect any problems" for the 20-year bond, said Eric Cruz, a director at Deutsche Bank.

Though Manila has little need for the money — the government expects to post a budget surplus of 17 billion pesos this year — the new bond will set a benchmark for borrowing costs, making it easier for companies to borrow over a 20-year term.

Setting the stage for the sale of the bond is an economy growing at an annual rate of 7 percent, accompanied by slowing inflation.

'Lucky Break' Underlies Stable Business Cycle

By Carl Gewirtz
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Why is this business cycle different from most others? Are the remarkably stable conditions over the past five years sustainable? Is inflation dead? Or is this all just a transitory phase of an irrational exuberance?

An intriguing in-depth analysis by the London-based research team at Union Bank of Switzerland concludes that the exuberance, most evident in the U.S. equity markets, is not only rational but also likely to persist and encompass Western Europe and Japan before financial markets succumb to their traditional roller-coaster pattern.

This business cycle is different, argue Bill Martin, Chris Carter and George Magnus, the authors of "Cycles and

Securities," thanks to policy blunders that resulted in a period of exceptionally desynchronized economic activity in the United States, Germany and Japan.

"The tranquility of the 1990s is not due to sudden major shifts in the behavior of bond markets or real economies. Instead, the world had a lucky break," the UBS analysts wrote, due to "a unique set of accidents."

These are identified as the reunification of Germany at the wrong rate of exchange, which set off an inflationary boom that then had to be contained, and the virtual locking of exchange rates within the European Union, in preparation for monetary union, to an appreciating Deutsche mark.

The ensuing deflation in Europe coincided with Japan's belated efforts to burst the bubble that had been permitted

to develop in domestic asset prices, severely damaging its financial system.

As a result, the volatility of the global business cycle has been minimized.

"There are only a very few instances this century — 1929, 1969, 1987 — when this measure of instability has been so low," the authors wrote.

Despite the ominous comparison, they added that they "do not forecast a crash."

"Chances are that the present highly stable conditions will continue this year and next," the authors wrote, and then ebb as volatility in global activity picks up.

The timing of that expected turnaround is difficult to call, the authors acknowledge. But "for the next year or so," they said, investors should remain fully invested in stocks. For them, that

means keeping 60 percent of portfolios in equities, 30 percent in bonds and 10 percent in cash.

They recommend overweighting stock holdings in Japan and Europe and underweighting exposure in the United States, where they see the greatest downside risk.

"In the very long run, bonds are likely to be a better defensive play than stocks," the analysts wrote. For now, they advocate bonds denominated in dollars or pounds.

While U.S. and British interest rates are expected to continue rising, the analysts predicted much less risk in those currencies than in bonds denominated in marks or yen, as German and Japanese interest rates have not yet begun to rise and the possibility of such an increase is not priced into bonds.

Most Active International Bonds

The 250 most active international bonds traded through the Euroclear system for the week ending April 18. Prices supplied by Teletours.

Rank Name Cpn Maturity Price Yield

Austrian Schilling

204 Austria 5 01/17/07 98.9000 5.6900

247 Austria 4 05/31/06 103.5500 6.0400

Belgian Franc

139 Belgium 9 03/28/03 120.7500 7.4500

191 Belgium 7 07/29/08 112.70 6.6500

Canadian Dollar

147 Canada 7 06/01/03 105.8600 6.8500

174 Canada 7 12/01/04 102.9000 6.8000

Danish Krone

5 Denmark 8 03/15/06 111.3000 7.2000

18 Denmark 9 11/15/00 114.70 7.8500

14 Denmark 7 11/15/07 103.1000 6.9000

35 Denmark 7 11/10/04 98.8500 7.3000

40 Denmark 8 12/15/04 106.2500 6.6000

43 Denmark 8 11/15/01 111.8000 7.1500

59 Denmark 8 05/15/03 111.8000 7.1600

75 Denmark 6 12/10/99 104.4000 5.7500

88 Denmark 7 10/15/07 112.4500 6.6000

98 Denmark 6 11/15/02 102.8600 5.8300

108 Denmark 5 08/15/05 93.2000 5.3600

130 Denmark 9 02/15/00 103.4000 6.7000

142 Denmark 7 02/15/98 103.4000 6.7700

190 Denmark 6 02/15/99 104.0500 6.7700

Deutsche Mark

1 Germany 6 04/16/06 103.8725 6.0200

2 Germany 6 01/04/02 102.0000 5.8500

3 Germany 6 02/28/02 114.3000 7.0000

4 Germany 6 01/10/05 102.6200 6.1500

5 Germany 6 01/05/06 101.7200 5.9700

6 Germany 8 02/28/02 102.2850 6.1000

9 Germany 6 05/21/01 102.6500 6.8700

10 Germany 8 07/22/02 114.7900 6.9700

12 Germany 7 02/28/01 114.8000 7.1800

13 Germany 5 05/21/01 102.6500 6.8700

14 Germany 7 09/09/04 112.5800 6.6600

15 Germany 6 02/28/01 114.8000 7.1800

16 Germany 7 12/02/02 111.8000 6.4000

17 Germany 3 12/18/98 101.1200 5.5000

18 Germany 6 02/28/04 95.2400 5.2700

20 Germany 6 02/16/06 103.1000 6.8000

22 Germany 3 09/18/98 100.2600 4.8900

23 Germany 7 01/29/03 114.4250 6.4500

24 Germany 7 11/10/04 112.4500 6.6000

28 Germany 7 07/09/03 107.2600 6.4000

29 Germany 6 09/11/03 108.9800 6.3100

30 Germany 5 11/10/04 103.9900 6.4700

31 Germany 6 07/01/99 105.3000 6.0800

32 Germany 5 02/21/01 103.3250 5.9800

33 Germany 8 03/21/01 114.7000 7.2000

34 Germany 6 07/15/03 107.8200 6.0700

35 Germany 7 01/19/97 98.6010 2.9500

37 Germany 6 02/28/00 105.2350 5.4500

38 Germany 5 05/15/05 105.4725 5.5600

39 Germany 9 10/26/00 116.0957 7.7600

41 Germany 6 04/23/01 116.7150 7.4900

42 Germany 6 02/28/02 116.7150 7.4900

46 Germany 8 02/20/01 114.9300 7.4000

47 Germany 8 12/20/00 115.2550 7.6000

49 Germany 6 02/01/06 95.0750 5.2800

50 Germany 7 10/10/02 113.4867 6.8300

51 Germany 6 05/13/04 108.0700 6.2500

52 Germany 6 07/22/00 116.7025 7.6200

53 Germany 8 07/17/97 102.4000 6.0500

54 Germany 7 12/20/02 110.6233 6.4400

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148 Germany 6 02/01/06 95.0750 5.2800

Figures as of close
of trading Friday, April 18

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Will-and-Say

Trusted in

Regulation and Management

Dollar Stalled at a Crossroads

Traders Take Wait-and-See Attitude Ahead of G-7

By Carl Gewirtz
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Logic dictates that the dollar should remain strong because that is what currently suits the best interests of the United States, Germany and Japan. The official rhetoric from Japan and Germany, however, suggests that the dollar has climbed enough — if not too far.

So, analysts report, look for a stand-off in the foreign-exchange market this week as operators bided back from a natural tendency to push the dollar higher and await some clarification of intentions from the regular spring meeting of finance ministers and central bankers of the Group of Seven leading industrialized countries in Washington next weekend.

"There's a natural tendency to be overweight dollars," said Neil MacKinnon of Citibank in London. "But it's unlikely the market will do much this week, not until there are clearer signals from the G-7."

At their February meeting in Berlin, G-7 officials appeared intent on capping the dollar's advance. In fact, all they did was to slow its advance. In the first six weeks of the year, the dollar climbed 6.3 percent versus the yen and 7.8 percent against the Deutsche mark. In the subsequent 11 weeks ended Friday, the dollar advanced a

further 2 percent, to 125.885 yen, and 3 percent, to 1.7118 DM.

Polymaker rhetoric at the upcoming meeting "probably will shift more strongly against additional dollar gains," said Kermit Schoenholtz at Salomon Brothers Inc. in London. But, he added, with short-term U.S. interest rates likely to continue rising — adding to the attraction of holding dollars — the currency would likely climb to 130 yen and 1.75 DM, especially given that neither Japan nor Germany is in a position to support its currency through an increase in interest rates.

Moreover, given the likely continuing U.S. need to slow the pace of growth, Western Europe no doubt would rather see a higher dollar bite into U.S. demand than an outright increase in U.S. rates, which could spill over to European bond and stock markets and impinge the recovery under way in Europe.

The wild card in this outlook is Japan. There is a limit to how much dollar strength/yen weakness it can tolerate — not just in terms of friction with the United States over an ever-widening Japanese trade surplus, but also in terms of the damage to its Pacific Basin trading partners, who are already unable to compete with a cheap yen, and to Japanese industrialists who have invested heavily in offshore production. Were the dollar to threaten to break

over the 130-yen level, some analysts say the Bank of Japan would raise the discount rate from its record low of 0.5 percent. The officially administered cost of overnight money is already below the discount rate, and analysts say a discount-rate increase would have minimal impact on the real economy and maximum effect in scaring foreign-exchange traders out of selling yen.

The danger is that Japan's ailing banking system can ill afford the likely loss on its holding of government bonds. On the other hand, a steepening of the Japanese yield curve would also enhance the earnings the banks yield from borrowing short-term and using the money to buy higher yielding government paper.

A lot also depends on how the economy responds to the April increase in the consumption tax. A fast recovery, says Brendan Brown at Tokyo-Mitsubishi International in London, could bring an increase in the discount rate by late summer.

Stephen Roach at Morgan Stanley & Co. sounds a similar warning, saying that Tokyo and Bonn both need to move from a position of ease to at least a policy of neutrality. "Both the Bank of Japan and the Bundesbank need to set real interest rates with an eye toward traditional cyclical considerations rather than allow them to be shaped by perceived structural perils," he said.

When a False Rumor Rocks Market

By Floyd Norris
New York Times

NEW YORK — In economic books, you can read that the stock market is a rational place, where an efficient market allows every stock to trade at a price that incorporates all publicly available information. Sure it is.

Consider the case of Castle Convertible Fund, a small closed-end fund that is traded on the American Stock Exchange. Volume is normally low, and it trades with all the excitement and volatility you would expect from a diversified portfolio of convertible stocks and bonds.

But for 22 wild minutes Tuesday, things were far from normal.

A wave of sell orders swept into the Amex on its automatic order entry system, most of them from one discount brokerage firm. The price of the fund, which was \$24.625 at 12:46 P.M., when the first sell order came in, plunged to \$20.25 by 12:58, when the specialist called in an Amex floor official to discuss what to do.

The fund was called, and asked if it had any news to report, but it was not until 1:08 that trading was halted. By then, the wave of sell orders had pushed the price

down to \$16.75, or 32 percent below where it was before the selling started.

After the fund said it had no news, trading reopened at 2:39, at \$21.50, and the price moved back to \$23 by the close. All told, 104,400 shares traded that day — more than had changed hands in any month during the last decade. That included 31,600 that were sold during the plunge.

What happened? It appears that

INVESTING

someone heard that there was a scandal at a fund called CVF, which is the ticker symbol for the Castle fund and the way traders refer to it. There is such a scandal. But it involves an offshore fund, the Czech Value Fund, which had invested in a fraudulent operation.

Czech Value's problems had been reported the previous Friday in The Financial Times of London, using CVF as an abbreviation. Somebody then told investors to bail out of the wrong CVF, and the sell orders came in.

The Amex specialist trading the stock, Paul Oscher of Crooks, Oscher & Co., said he had acted responsibly. But David

Alger, the fund's manager, said he had asked the Amex to change specialists

because this one did not meet its obligation to maintain an orderly market.

"I thought a seven-point drop was excessive, given that this was not a semiconductor company that reported bad earnings," Mr. Alger said.

Thomas Ryan, the president of the Amex, says the specialist did his duty. But, Mr. Ryan conceded Friday, "in retrospect, we probably should have stopped trading earlier than we did."

That admission of error, amazingly enough, is being backed up with a money-back offer. Those who sold shares during the plunge are being offered the opportunity to repurchase the shares at \$21.50. Assuming they accept, that will cost the Amex about \$48,000.

The real issue here is the illustration of how irrational markets can be. Sometimes a flood of orders — buy or sell — indicates something has really changed; sometimes it indicates something else. That is true for an obscure fund like Castle, and it can be true for the entire market. A week ago, the Dow Jones industrial average fell 217 points in four days. Last week it rose 311 points. Why? First the sellers, and then perhaps the buyers, got carried away. The market may be rational in the long run, but the short-term story can be very different.

Chairman Ousted in Milan Bank War

Bloomberg News

MILAN — Banca Popolare di Milano SpA shareholders named Paolo Bassi chairman Sunday, ousting Francesco Cesarini after a long struggle between two factions for control of the bank.

Mr. Bassi was elected with 5,207 votes, against 1,275 votes for Mr. Cesarini, during a shareholders' meeting that lasted more than 12 hours.

The bank is a *popolare*, or cooperative, meaning all shareholders and depositors have one vote each at the company's annual meeting regardless of the amount of stock they own or the size of their accounts. That increases employee clout at the expense of other shareholders like investment funds.

Mr. Bassi was backed by employees protesting Mr. Cesarini's management, which has promised to cut costs and reduce personnel. The outcome under-

scored the difficulty Italian banks face in trying to dismiss workers and increase efficiency.

The bank's unions and employees also sought to derail Mr. Cesarini's proposal to change the bank's statutes to give more weight to shareholders who are not employees or depositors by introducing the right to vote by mail and proxy.

In addition, Mr. Cesarini advocated opening the bank's board to representatives of nonemployee shareholders.

"I made several proposals to improve the efficiency of the bank, and they were met with indifference if not downright rigidity," he told shareholders in a speech during the meeting. "My main error was that I was unable to endure the almost biblical time period that would have been needed to obtain full consent of all employees to proceed."

The victory for Mr. Bassi and the new

board chosen by the bank's unions will hammer the bank's stock Monday, analysts said.

"It's not cautious to substitute a driver who has shown he was doing a good job," said Massimo Fornuzzi, a fund manager at Finanza & Futuro SpA.

The vote is the culmination of months of strife between a group of Mr. Cesarini's allies on the board and those directors representing workers, who picked Mr. Bassi to lead the challenge.

In March, the Bank of Italy intervened, telling Mr. Cesarini and the board to clear up the dispute over whether the bank would change its statutes. It hinted that if Banca Popolare's board was unable to come up with a solution to modify the statutes, the central bank would find a solution on its own.

Beijing Revamps Regulation Of Bankruptcies and Mergers

Reuters

BEIJING — China has set up a group with responsibility for bankruptcies, takeovers and helping the jobless, taking a major step toward tackling a communist taboo that has long hampered reform of the state sector.

The State Council, or cabinet, recently approved the establishment of the working group, the official Xinhua news agency said Sunday.

While the number of bankruptcies in China has accelerated in recent years, Beijing has shied away from a widespread use of the practice because of controversy over the closure of state-owned companies and creation of a pool of urban jobless.

Under the new rules, the group will be responsible for handling bankruptcies and consolidations in cities designated as pilots for carrying out these methods of closing failed enterprises, Xinhua said.

A chief aim will be to ensure the re-employment of workers, in order to safeguard social stability, it said.

Under the new rules, pilot cities must work with banks to decide whether insolvent companies should be declared bankrupt and report the amount of bad debts that must be covered by a central fund before a company could proceed, Xinhua said.

China has said it will set aside 30 billion yuan (\$3.60 billion) this year to cover bad debts of state enterprises, up from 20 billion yuan last year.

An asset appraisal office approved by the central government will move into the insolvent company, Xinhua said. If the company used land owned by the state, it said, the land would be transferred to a new owner after its value was independently appraised.

Income from the sale of assets must first be used to re-employ jobless workers, it said, and if this money is insufficient the local government must set aside a sum equivalent to three times the average annual salary of each worker.

Management officials responsible for the bankruptcy of a company will be punished and those who have committed crimes will face charges, it said. Government officials responsible for the company may also face punishment.

In consolidations, the company that takes over will be responsible for all debts and workers, it said. But companies that take over enterprises that have lost money for the previous three years will be allowed to repay debts over five years without interest.

A total of 6,232 enterprises declared bankruptcy in China last year, compared with 5,395 from 1989 to 1995.

Taiwan Criteria Threaten to Curb China Investment

Reuters

TAIPEI — Taiwan has drafted a new set of criteria that may be used to regulate the level of investment in China, officials said.

"The criteria were drafted by a group of scholars and experts at the request of the Economics Ministry," an Investment Commission official said over the weekend, "and we might use them to screen our indirect investment in mainland China in the future."

"But before we use them, we would first seek consensus from government officials, businessmen and lawmakers," the official said.

The criteria would help determine if a Taiwan investment in a Chinese industry, with a possible transfer of technology, would harm industries in Taiwan, he said. The criteria would set a ceiling on the investment, which the official said would affect mostly larger Taiwan firms.

Taiwan has banned direct contact with China since the end of civil war in 1949, but more than 30,000 Taiwan companies have invested an estimated \$30 billion in China since a thaw in the 1980s.

FIDELITY FRONTIER FUND
Société d'investissement à Capital Variable
Kansallis House, Place de l'Etoile,
B.P. 2174, L-1021 Luxembourg
R.C. No B 20494

NOTICE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that an Extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders of Fidelity Frontier Fund (the "Fund") will be held at the registered office of the Fund in Luxembourg on May 2, 1997 at 4:45 p.m. to consider the following agenda:

- To hear the report of the liquidator.
- To appoint an auditor to the liquidation.

If you are unable to attend the above Extraordinary General Meeting, you are urged to execute the enclosed proxy and return it to the registered office of the Company prior to the date of the Meeting.

Fidelity Investments

GT DEUTSCHLAND FUND
Société d'investissement à Capital variable
2, boulevard Royal, Luxembourg
R.C. Luxembourg B-25023

NOTICE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that an Extraordinary General Meeting of shareholders of the above Fund (the "Fund") will be held at the offices of Banque Internationale à Luxembourg, Société Anonyme, 60, route d'Esch, L-1470 Luxembourg, on April 30th, 1997 at 2:00 p.m. to consider, and if thought fit, pass the following resolutions:

RESOLUTIONS

- That the Fund be put into liquidation with effect from the date of the passing of this resolution;
- That Banque Internationale à Luxembourg S.A. be appointed as Liquidator of the Fund.

The quorum for the meeting is shareholders representing 50% of the shares outstanding in the Fund, whether present in person or by proxy. In order to pass a resolution to liquidate the Fund, shareholders representing two thirds of the shares represented at the Meeting will be required to vote in favour of the resolution.

If the quorum is not reached, a second meeting will be held on June 2nd, 1997 at the same place at 2:00 p.m. to consider the same agenda. At such reconvened meeting there shall be no quorum requirement.

Holders of bearer shares who wish to attend the meeting, should deposit their share certificate with Banque Internationale à Luxembourg S.A., 60, route d'Esch, L-1470 Luxembourg by no later than 5:30 pm (Luxembourg Time) on the day before the Meeting.

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SHORT COVER

Singapore's Retail Sales Dip 17.6%

SINGAPORE (AFP) — Singapore's retail sales plunged 17.6 percent in February from a year earlier, official figures showed Sunday, as hard-pressed retailers battle increasing competition for shopping dollars.

February retail sales, defined as those sold directly for personal and household consumption, reached 1.75 billion Singapore dollars (\$1.2 billion), the department of statistics said. It represented a 17.6-percent contraction from February 1996, and an even steeper 30.1 percent fall from the previous month. The department blamed the dip on the fewer days in February and a spending decline following Chinese Lunar New Year festivities.

All retail sales segments except petrol service stations reported lower sales in February compared to January, the department said in a news release.

SGB Ready to Cede Noncore Stakes

BRUSSELS (Reuters) — The Belgian holding company, Societe Generale de Belgique SA, is willing to give up control of its nonstrategic assets, the SGB chairman, Etienne Davignon, said.

"Even though all SGB's assets, with the exception of Tractebel, are no longer strategic, SGB will keep supporting them fully," Mr. Davignon was quoted as saying in Belgian financial daily De Financier-Economische Tijd. Tractebel is a utility holding company. "SGB is even willing to give up control of these units, if it is in their interest."

Following the announcement of the planned merger of SGB's French parent company, Compagnie de Suez, with the French utility group Lyonnaise des Eaux, Tractebel is now the only strategic Belgian asset in the new merged group, which wants to become a world leader in utilities services.

U.S. Weighs Telecom Complaint

FRANKFURT (Reuters) — The U.S. government is considering filing a complaint against Germany with the World Trade Organization to protest slow progress in deregulation in the telecommunications area, a news magazine reported.

In a summary of an article to be published in next week's edition, Der Spiegel wrote that the United States is considering launching the complaint because Germany's Post and Telecommunications Ministry has not acted quickly enough to open up the market.

A spokeswoman for the U.S. trade representative, Charlene Barshefsky, could not confirm the report.

Japanese Firms Develop New Chip

TOKYO (AFP) — Fuji Electric Co. Ltd., Kawasaki Steel Corp. and Nissan Motor Co. Ltd. have jointly developed a universal intermediate semiconductor aimed at helping connect factory automation equipment, a newspaper reported.

The three companies said introduction of the new application specific integrated circuit would lead to a cut in production costs by simplifying connections in factory automation systems, Nihon Keizai Shimbun said.

The newly developed integrated circuit is designed to enable connections among robots, numerically controlled machine tools and sensors, the newspaper said.

For the Record

Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. union workers went on strike Sunday at nine U.S. plants after failing to reach an agreement on a new three-year contract. (Bloomberg)

Microsoft Network's electronic-mail service was mostly restored Friday after a 36-hour shutdown to double the system's capacity. (AP)

Citibank credit-card chief, Roberta Arena, 49, is to retire at year's end amid a reorganization of the company's consumer banking business, a spokesman said. (Bloomberg)

U.S. Markets Await Influx of German Companies

Bloomberg News

FRANKFURT — Investors seeking easier access to German companies on U.S. stock markets could soon get just that, according to Arthur Levitt, chairman of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

"In coming weeks I believe we will see more great German companies announcing listings on the U.S. market," he said at a Frankfurt conference to promote U.S. listings.

Only four companies from Germany, the world's third-largest economy, are listed on the New York Stock Exchange, which boasts 295 non-U.S. companies, while two are listed on the Nasdaq, which carries more than 400 non-U.S. companies.

The main obstacle has been the

stringent U.S. requirement for open reporting of balance sheets. The same accounting and capitalization requirements apply to American depository receipts, which give title to non-U.S. shares, as they do for common shares.

"The reason that companies don't come is they fear the bureaucracy of the U.S.," Mr. Levitt said. "We will do all we can to encourage them."

Daimler-Benz AG was the first German company to list its shares on the Big Board in 1993, followed by the carbon and graphite maker SGL Carbon AG and the pump maker Pfeiffer Vacuum Technology AG last summer and Deutsche Telekom AG in November.

The companies listed on the Nas-

daq are the cable network operator Digitale Telekabel AG and the biopharmaceutical company Qiagen NV.

The chemicals company Hoechst AG and the utility VEBA AG have announced plans to list on the New York exchange. They will have to change their accounting standards to conform with U.S. rules.

The possibility of more chemical and other major companies announcing a listing is "pretty high," said Rainer Wunderlin, a director at the Frankfurt arm of Bank of New York, Germany's largest issuer of ADRs.

Mr. Wunderlin also pointed to companies such as the machinery maker Linde AG, which is considering switching its accounting to more international standards, and

software company SAP AG, which could benefit from the extra publicity a U.S. listing could bring. More than a quarter of SAP's sales are in the United States.

But an SAP spokesman said the company "still has no plans at the moment to list on the U.S. market."

Among the largest companies that have not yet announced U.S. listings are the chemicals giants Bayer AG and BASF AG, the electronics leader Siemens AG, the utility RWE AG and Deutsche Bank AG.

Bonn Denies Deficit Threat

The Bonn government denied reports Sunday that Germany might be excluded from Europe's currency union for missing its budget targets.

but officials admitted more cost-cutting was needed. Reuters reported from Frankfurt.

"Only the tax estimate, to be released in May, will present new clarity about fiscal affairs," a Finance Ministry spokesman said, brushing off a report in the newspaper Welt am Sonntag that Germany was close to exceeding its budget deficit target.

The newspaper said that because Bonn's deficit for the first three months stood at 40 billion Deutsche marks (\$23.29 billion), the government had already used up most of the 53.4 billion DM allowed for its budget deficit for 1997.

But the spokesman said it was impossible to extrapolate the budget deficit for the full year from volatile cash deficits and low tax revenues.

South Korea Banks Move to Ease Debt Burden on Troubled Firms

Bloomberg News

SEOUL — In a bid to stem a rise in corporate failures, South Korean commercial banks have agreed to save financially troubled companies that have chances of recovery by deferring their debts.

The decision, reached Saturday, came as many companies are going bankrupt amid rising debt and a slowing economy.

Hanbo Group and Sammi Group collapsed this year under a combined debt of \$8.2 billion. Jinro Group, which has a total debt of \$3 billion, last week missed a debt payment deadline. Jinro is expected to be the first beneficiary of the agreement, the Korea Federation of Banks said.

The accord prohibits signatory

banks from demanding the payment of debts by companies that are in financial difficulty yet have been declared by the banks' association to be salvageable.

The commercial banks also agreed to let the salvageable companies continue financial transactions with them even after they default on debt repayments to nonbank financial institutions, such as merchant banks.

Merchant banks reportedly will denounce the decision as being counter to fair-trade rules. A company is declared bankrupt if it defaults on debt payments to any type of financial institution.

Nonbank financial institutions are more inclined to demand the payment of debts because they generally have less collateral.

Tokyo Welcomes Bank Overhauls

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — Eisuke Sakakibara, director-general of the Japanese Finance Ministry's International Finance Bureau, says the threat of a banking crisis has receded because of overhauls announced by two of the country's top banks.

"Japanese banks' bad loans have been pretty much resolved," by overhaul plans announced by Nippon Credit Bank Ltd. and Hokkaido Takushoku Bank Ltd., Mr. Sakakibara said Saturday.

Nippon Credit said earlier this month it would write off 480 billion yen (\$3.81 billion) in bad loans and slash its work force by a third, while increasing capital by selling new shares. Hokkaido Takushoku said it would merge with a rival to become a stronger regional bank.

Both banks have struggled under trillions of yen of bad loans, and both plan to abandon their foreign operations as part of their restructuring operations.

Analysts said they expected many more Japanese banks to decide to close their overseas operations soon, because their huge problem loans make it hard to meet capital requirements.

"Japanese banks must cut unprofitable assets overseas to boost return on equity," said Yoshiro Ito, first vice president of Smith Barney International Inc. "All that many of them are doing overseas is providing services to Japanese customers, rather than doing business with local customers in host countries. They are doing Japanese business even in overseas markets."

He said that over the next few years, the number of Japanese banks operating abroad could fall to about a third of the current 85. There are 149 banks in Japan.

Mr. Sakakibara said Japanese commercial banks lagged foreign competitors in the global market and needed "reforms from within."

"They are sometimes more bureaucratic than the Ministry of Finance," he said.

Foreign companies have a great interest in Japan's financial market reform, Mr. Sakakibara said.

Eight foreign financial institutions await the ministry's permission to open branches or offices in Japan, and foreign brokerages are increasing trading volume in the Tokyo market, Mr. Sakakibara said. (Bloomberg, Reuters)

MEET: Russian Executives Adapt and Pitch Investments in the Capitalist Ritual of 'Roadshows'

Continued from Page 11

With a return of 46 percent in the first quarter of 1997, for instance, Lexington Troika Dialog Russia outpaced all other international stock funds.

Mr. Sadler has invested 2.5 percent of his fund's \$160 million in Russia since January. As an acknowledged rookie in the Russian market, he said he relied on meetings like the one at the Ritz-Carlton to get a better grip on a company.

"The financial information often is not credible in any emerging market, so looking someone in the eye has a lot to do with this business," he said. "I've got to balance management capabilities and my trust in the managers' motivations."

That, presumably, is what Mr. Sadler was doing as Mr. Vokhmin of Perm Uralsvazinform outlined his company's far-flung businesses: its telephone operations in the Urals region, which straddles the European and Asian parts of Russia; its radio and TV stations; its Ural Express credit/debit card operation; and its 80 percent interest in a regional bank.

Pyotr Debryansky, director of planning and finance for Rostelecom, Russia's long-distance telephone company, said in the meetings that his superiors were often so busy dealing with investors and prospective investors that he had difficulty getting appointments with them.

But Mr. Debryansky's superiors, like their counterparts in the other Russian companies

making presentations last week, were eager for investors' cash.

This summer, Perm Uralsvazinform plans to enter the U.S. stock market by issuing American depository receipts, which are certificates representing foreign shares. Other enterprises are seeking private placements or will soon issue Eurobonds.

Red October, which makes expensive candies, needs cash to buy equipment to make cheaper sweets as well, and to defray cocoa-bean tariffs, which have risen 5 percent in the last year.

The investors at the Ritz-Carlton were cordial, but they had concerns. They asked about the risks posed to these businesses by the nonpayment of bills that is common in Russian society, and about the companies' own bill-

paying habits. They asked about the tax burdens the companies face and the rules of corporate governance they follow. Given that many of the companies are big, the American investors also asked about Russia's antitrust policy.

So, was it thumbs up or thumbs down on Russia? Conclusions varied.

Thomas Niedermeyer, a private investor and former money manager at Morgan Stanley, said the presentations suggested to him that some of the usual favorite Russian plays, like telecommunications, had less opportunity, while sectors formerly in the shadow had more.

Mr. Sadler said that the presenting companies were "a mixed bag — but better than expected." If the Russian stock market continues to soar, or, of course, more investors will be rummaging in that bag, mixed or not.

For all those who think spring flowers are just something to be sneezed at. Hoechst.

To some, it's the most beautiful time of year. To others, it's a nightmare that leaves them breathless for weeks on end.

For many people, flowering trees and grasses signal spring allergies more often than spring fever.

Latest research results
let allergy sufferers
breathe a sigh of relief.

Allergy symptoms can range from sneezing, a runny or stuffy nose and teary eyes to severe shortness of breath.

The sinuses swell up and the mucous membranes become infected, blocking the respiratory tract.

Pollen is the main trigger of allergies. But household dust, insect bites, certain foods and even cat and dog hair can also produce allergic reactions.

It's no wonder that the search is on for ways to help



For many allergy sufferers, this is just a dream. Because pollen particles — just a thousandth of a millimeter in size — can get caught in the mucous membrane of the nose, triggering an allergic reaction.

allergy sufferers finally catch their breath.

Today, doctors have effective medications for treating allergies at their disposal. Like the latest antihistamines, which block the body's histamine receptors and diminish allergic reactions without causing drowsiness. That spells real relief for many people.

Hoechst Marion Roussel, our pharmaceutical company, is committed to ongoing efforts aimed alleviating allergies and other respiratory illnesses so that allergy sufferers can breathe a sigh of relief — especially in the spring and summer.

Hoechst is an international group of companies spearheading innovation in health care, nutrition and industry. With a staff of 145,000 people worldwide, annual sales total DM 52 billion.

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Consolidated prices for all shares
traded during week ended Friday,
April 18

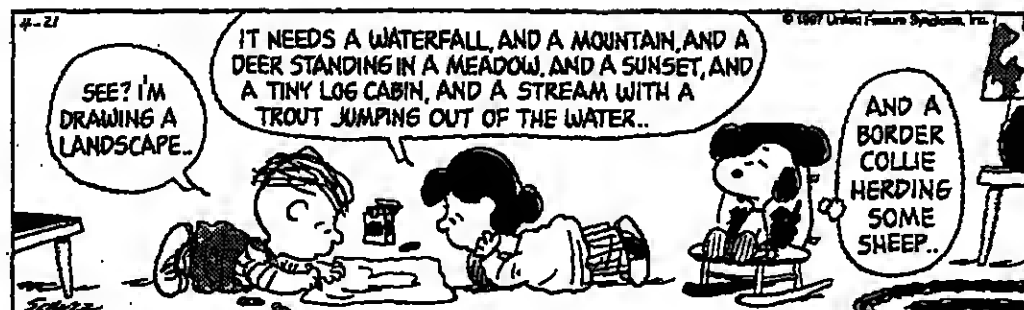
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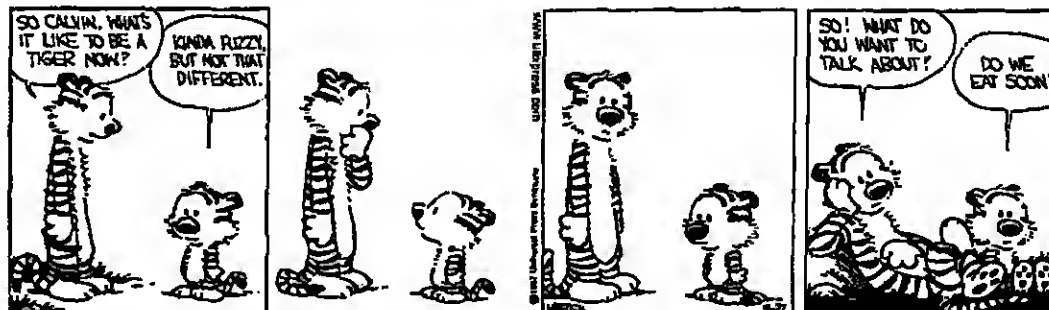
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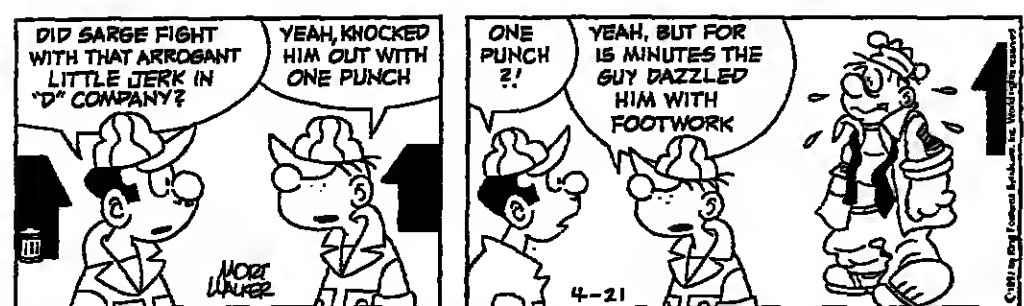
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THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

SPORTS

Historic Haplessness: Cubs Lose 14th Straight

Chicago Approaches All-Time Streak

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
In their 122-year history, the Chicago Cubs had done a lot of losing, but never 14 in a row.
Until now.

Carl Everett homered twice, including a tiebreaking grand slam in the third inning that led the New York Mets over the winless Cubs, 8-2, in the first game of a doubleheader Sunday.

Doug Glanville and Dave Hansen opened the game with singles off Bobby Jones (3-1) and Brooks Kieschnick even

In the opener, the St. Louis starter, Matt Morris, was forced to leave after being struck on his pitching hand by a line drive in the second inning.

Petkovsek allowed three hits over six shutout innings and did not let a runner advance past first base. He struck out three and walked one.

Mets 6, Cubs 3 The Cubs matched the longest losing streak in their 122-year history with their 13th straight. Turk Wendell — who wears No. 13 — took the loss.

Pirates 6, Reds 5 In Pittsburgh, Jermaine Allensworth scored on Kevin Elster's sacrifice fly in the ninth as the Pirates manufactured the winning run without a hit.

Pittsburgh 4-0 lead, then rallied to even the score on Elster's run-scoring single in the seventh. The Reds have lost five of six overall and nine of 10 on the road.

Brewers 8, Rockies 7 Kenny Lofton singled, doubled and tripled, and Denny Neagle won for the first time in five starts in Denver as Atlanta won its seventh straight.

Giants 3, Marlins 2 In San Francisco, Florida's right fielder, Gary Sheffield, lost Glenallen Hill's routine fly, which dropped for a two-run double in the eighth.

San Francisco, which has six come-from-behind victories, is off to a 12-3 start, its best since 1971. The Giants have won eight straight.

Phillies 10, Expos 6 In Philadelphia, Gregg Jefferies drove in three runs and Kevin Stocker stole home as Philadelphia scored its highest run total this season.

Astros 2, Dodgers 1 Darryl Kile out-dueled Hideo Nomo as Houston won in Los Angeles. Kile allowed seven hits and one run in eight innings. He has gone eight innings in all four of his starts this season. Nomo allowed two runs and four hits, and struck out nine in 6 1/2 innings.

A's 7, Tigers 1 Mark McGwire hit his fifth homer and Willie Adams won on the road for the first time in eight career starts as Oakland won in Detroit. It was the slumping Tigers' fourth consecutive loss.

Indians 11, Brewers 8 In Cleveland, Milwaukee's second baseman, Fernando Vina, fractured his left leg when he jammed his left foot into the base while stealing second in the first inning, Milwaukee said. Vina, who was hitting .321, would have surgery for a fractured fibula and miss two months.



The Florida Marlins' shortstop, Edgar Renteria, jumping over Jose Vizcaino of the San Francisco Giants after forcing him out at second.

Yankees 3, White Sox 2 In New York, Tino Martinez hit a three-run homer in the eighth inning as New York won despite committing five errors. It was the Yankees' second straight victory following a five-game losing streak.

New York's starter, Kenny Rogers, gave up only three hits over 7 1/2 innings, but he also committed two errors.

Mariano Rivera, who had blown three of his first six save opportunities, got four outs for his fourth save.

Royals 7, Angels 3 In Kansas City, Mike MacFarlane broke out of an 0-for-17 slump with a three-run homer and Kevin Appier pitched a five-hitter. MacFarlane got his first hit of the

season during a five-run second inning against Mark Langston.

Tim Salmon, who had been 0-for-13, had three of Anaheim's hits.

Twins 4, Mariners 0 In Seattle, Bob Tewksbury pitched a six-hitter for his sixth career shutout as Minnesota beat Seattle. Tewksbury struck out five and walked one. He never faced more than four batters in an inning.

Blue Jays 6, Rangers 0 Roger Clemens allowed two hits in seven shutout innings, as Toronto blanked Texas in Arlington. Clemens (3-0) walked four and struck out four.

• Baltimore's game at Boston was rained out. (AP, Reuters)

Flyers Bounce Back To Lead Series 2-0

New Jersey Crushes Canadiens; Ottawa Unnerves Sabres' Goalie

The Associated Press
Trent Klatt scored the game-winner with 6:30 left in the third period as the Philadelphia Flyers twice came back from a one-goal deficit in the third period to beat the Pittsburgh Penguins, 3-2.

Klatt's goal Saturday night came on a 20-foot (6-meter) wrist shot out of the

NHL PLAYOFFS
corner. The puck bounced into the air before dropping behind the goaltender, Ken Wregget, who knocked it over the line as he scrambled to find it.

The victory gives Philadelphia a 2-0 lead in the best-of-7 series, which resumes Monday night in Pittsburgh. The Penguins are 0-14-1 on the road since beating Montreal on Jan. 26.

The Penguins had four power plays in the first period, including a two-man advantage for 1:14, but scored the period's only goal seven seconds after killing off a hooking penalty to Jaromir Jagr.

Jagr stepped out of the penalty box and took the puck across the blue line, then passed across to Mario Lemieux, who was trailing on the play.

Unchecked, Lemieux connected on a low shot to beat the Flyers' goalie, Garth Snow, at 10:59.

Twice in the scoreless second period, Pittsburgh's defenseman Fredrik Olausson swept away pucks that got behind Wregget and were lying on the goal line.

After 3:23 of the third period, Joel Otto tied the game at 1-1. Jagr put the Penguins up 2-1 with an impressive rush just a minute later.

Taking a pass from Lemieux, Jagr bore down on Snow as Eric Desjardins tried to bring him down. Jagr fought off Desjardins and faked Snow before putting in a backhanded shot at 4:44.

Just 72 seconds after that goal the Flyers tied the game again. John LeClair took a rebound and beat Wregget with a wrist shot that squeezed between the goalie's right arm and his body.

A crowd of 19,812 was the largest to attend a hockey game in the Philadelphia franchise's history. The team's minor-league affiliate, the Philadelphia Phantoms, drew 13,057 to the building for a playoff game earlier in the day.

Senators 3, Sabres 1 In Buffalo,

Dominik Hasek, the Sabres' goaltender, allowed an early goal and never recovered his poise. Ottawa made the most of his uncharacteristic play to gain its first-ever playoff victory and level the series at one game each.

All three Ottawa goals came on rebounds, which Hasek usually handles.

"He's a good goalie, and you have to expect he's going to stop the first shot," said Daniel Alfredsson, who scored Ottawa's third goal.

"You just have to be there to bang in the rebound," he said.

Hasek's frustration surfaced in the third period when he hit Alexei Yashin in the head with his mitt and was called for interference.

"He was doing things we don't normally see from Dominik Hasek," said Randy Cunneen, a Senators' forward.

Andreas Dackell and Steve Duchesne scored to give the Senators a 2-1 lead after the first two periods.

Duchesne's power-play goal put Ottawa ahead for good before Alfredsson scored 18 seconds into the third period and essentially eliminated any chance for a Buffalo comeback.

Randy Burridge scored for the Sabres.

Devils 4, Canadiens 1 It was business as usual for the New Jersey Devils.

The Devils' stifling defense left the Montreal Canadiens searching for answers and finding fault with the referee.

The Canadiens' defenseman Dave Manson blamed the referee, Stephen Walkom, after the Devils capitalized on three of six power-play chances, each time with Manson in the penalty box.

The Canadiens had just two power plays, the first after New Jersey had built a 4-0 lead on two power-play goals and an assist by John MacLean.

Martin Brodeur shut out the Canadiens for the first 54-plus minutes, and Bill Guerin and Bobby Carpenter added goals as the Devils took a 2-0 lead in their first-round Eastern Conference playoff series.

The Canadiens, who have lost six straight playoff games dating to last season, avoided the shutout when Brian Savage scored with 5:27 to play.

Play was delayed for about a minute because someone threw a bear's head on the ice.

Dismal End to Celtics' Awful Season

Boston Closes Against Raptors With Most Lopsided Loss of Year

The Associated Press
The Boston Celtics ended the worst season in their history Sunday, losing 125-94 to the Toronto Raptors, matching their most lopsided defeat of the year.

Boston finished at 15-67, far worse than its previous worst season, 22-46 in 1949-50.

Damon Stoudamire scored 32 points against a weak Celtics defense. The Raptors widened their lead in each quarter.

NBA ROUNDUP
stretching it in as many as 35 points before Boston scored the final four points.

The Raptors ended their second season at 30-52, an impressive nine games better than their record last year.

The Celtics allowed the most points and the highest field goal percentage in the NBA and on Sunday they repeatedly gave the Raptors clear paths to the basket and open jumpers.

In games played on Saturday:
Knicks 103, Bulls 104 The New York Knicks clinched the third seed in the Eastern Conference and kept the Bulls from repeating as 70-game winners by winning in Chicago in the final regular season game for both teams.

The Knicks finished 57-25 and earned the right to avoid the defending NBA champion Bulls until the Eastern Conference finals, if both teams get that far.

New York won at the United Center for the first time: It had lost eight in a row in the building, which opened in 1994, and 11 straight at Chicago.

The Bulls ended up 69-13. Last season they went 72-10 and became the first team to break the 70-victory barrier. The loss also snapped the Bulls' 32-game home winning streak and prevented them from matching the 1985-86 Boston Celtics' 40-1 home record. Chicago also had a chance to tie the Celtics last season but lost to Indiana in its home finale.

Patrick Ewing scored 27 points for the Knicks and made a 10-foot jumper from the left baseline with a little more than a minute to go for a 100-99 lead. After Michael Jordan missed a 15-footer, John Starks hit a 3-pointer for the Knicks after picking up a loose ball.

Jordan finished with 33 points for the Bulls, who led by as many as 14 points in the first half and nine in the fourth quarter.

New York will open its best-of-five first-round series Thursday against either Detroit or Charlotte. Chicago will face Washington or Cleveland on Friday. Washington and Cleveland played Sunday in a game that would decide the final playoff berth.

Chicago, which lost three of its final four games, expects to have Dennis Rodman and Toni Kukoc back from injuries for the playoffs.

Jazz 101, Timberwolves 89 Karl Malone scored 26 points in 25 minutes and John Stockton added 14 points and



The Knicks' Allan Houston, left, defending against Bulls' Michael Jordan.

12 assists as Utah prevented Minnesota from reaching the .500 mark.

James Robinson led the Timberwolves with 28 points, including seven 3-pointers.

Utah, which wrapped up the best record in the Western Conference more than a week ago, will open the first round of the playoffs against the Los Angeles Clippers on Thursday night. The Jazz won a franchise-record 63 games and finished with a club-record 38-3 mark at home.

SuperSonics 125, Clippers 100 In Seattle, Gary Payton scored 25 points and Detlef Schrempf had 24 as Seattle completed the regular season with a victory over Los Angeles.

Shawn Kemp added 22 points for the SuperSonics, who have a half-game lead over the second-place Los Angeles Lakers in the Pacific Division. The Lakers could take the division title and the No. 2 seed in the Western Conference playoffs with a victory Sunday at Portland.

Loy Vaught had 16 points and Pooh Richardson added 15 for the Clippers (36-46), the eighth seed in the conference. They open the playoffs next Thursday night on the road against top-seeded Utah.

Grizzlies 121, Suns 107 In Phoenix, second-year center Bryant Reeves scored a career-high 39 points and added 11 rebounds as Vancouver beat their

hosts to drop the Suns to the No. 7 seed in the Western Conference playoffs.

Shaheef Abdul-Rahim had 26 points, 10 assists and 10 rebounds for the Grizzlies.

Hawks 136, 76ers 104 Atlanta beat Philadelphia but lost its chance of winning the No. 3 seed in the East when New York beat Chicago.

Steve Smith led Atlanta with 21 points. It was the final regular-season game at the Atlanta Omni, which will be torn down this summer. A new arena will built in its place and should open for the 1998-99 season.

Heat 102, Magic 88 In Miami, both the Heat and the Orlando Magic rested their best players.

The teams will meet in the first round of the playoffs beginning next Thursday or Friday. Miami's Tim Hardaway and Alonzo Mourning and Orlando's Ronny Seikaly and Horace Grant didn't play.

Nuggets 100, Mavericks 85 Ervin Johnson had 21 points and a career-high 26 rebounds, and Kenny Smith made four free throws in the final 32.5 seconds as Denver won in Dallas to avoid finishing the season with its worst record ever.

Kings 122, Warriors 120 In San Jose, Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf hit three 3-pointers in the final 75 seconds of overtime as Sacramento beat Golden State to break a 10-game road losing streak.

THIS WEEK ON EUROSPORT

The top twelve Ice Hockey nations meet in Helsinki for the World Championship; can the Czech Republic hold onto their title as they face the might of Russia and the USA?

Ice Hockey:
26 April - 14 May, LIVE, The World Championship, Helsinki
Finland plays host to the best teams in the world

Tennis:
21 - 27 April, LIVE, The Monte Carlo Open, Super 9
The world's best players meet in one of the world's most glamorous cities

Indy car:
25 - 27 April, LIVE, PPG CART World Series, Nazareth, USA
The fourth round of the Championship comes from the Nazareth Speedway, Pennsylvania

Football:
22 - 24 April, UEFA and Cup Winners' Cup, Semi-finals
The battle is on to qualify for the final in two of Europe's top football competitions

European TV channel for Europe, covering the action from Europe and around the world.

Herald Tribune
SPORTS

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MONDAY, APRIL 21, 1997

WORLD ROUNDUP

Cage Wins Title

GOLF Stuart Cagle of England won the first European Tour title of his career when he captured the Cannes Open on Sunday.

Cagle, who has suffered from a painful stomach condition since early February, fired a final-round 5-under-par 66 to stretch his three-shot overnight lead to five shots and finish 14-under at 270. He won \$80,000, the biggest check of his career.

David Carter who underwent brain surgery in February, shot a 62 to share second place at 275 with Paul Broadhurst.

"I'm ecstatic," Carter said. "It's a miracle. I'm just happy to be alive."

• Nick Price, who has not won in America for three years, led by two strokes after three rounds of the MC1 Classic on Hilton Head Island.

Price shot a 69 Saturday for a 10-under 203. Brad Faxon was in second and Tom Lehman was three back at 7-under. (AP)

Dragons Burn Claymores

FOOTBALL Jon Kitna threw two touchdowns Sunday as the Barcelona Dragons defeated the defending World League champion Scottish Claymores, 20-7.

• T.J. Ruhlery tossed three touchdowns Sunday as the Rhein Fire's offense finally came alive in a 28-6 WFLAF win over the London Monarchs. Rhein Fire dominated the second half compiling 292 yards on offense. (AP)

Castro Takes Rotterdam

MARATHON Domingos Castro of Portugal outran a strong field Sunday to win the Rotterdam Marathon in 2 hours 7 minutes and 51 seconds.

Alejandro Gomez of Spain, finished second in 2:07.54. Kenya's Sammy Korir was third in 2:08.02. Nine men finished inside 2 hours, 10 minutes.

Kenyan Tegla Loroupe won the women's event in 2:22.07, cutting 5½ minutes off her personal best. She beat Marleen Renders by more than 3½ minutes.

• Josephat Ndeti won the Belgrade Marathon on Saturday, leading a sweep of the top three places by Kenyans. Ndeti finished in 2:13.37.

Irina Bogacheva of Kirghizstan was the fastest woman with a time of 2:34.56. (Reuters)

Bruins Dismiss Coach

ICE HOCKEY Steve Kasper was fired as coach of the Boston Bruins after two years of what assistant general manager Mike O'Connell termed "disastrous results." (AP)

76ers Fire Coach and GM

BASKETBALL The Philadelphia 76ers fired general manager Brad Greenberg and head coach Johnny Davis on Sunday, hours after ending the season with the third-worst mark in franchise history. (AP)

Pakistan Hits Out

CRICKET Hashan Tillekeratne completed his sixth test century as Sri Lanka were bowled out shortly after lunch for 330 by Pakistan on the second day of the opening test in Colombo.

When Pakistan batted Ijaz Ahmed made 90 not out as the Pakistanis raced to 200 runs for two wickets at the close.

• In Georgetown, on the fourth day of the fifth and final test, India and West Indies were again kept off the field by rain on the fourth day of the fifth and final test. Two days had already been lost because of wet weather. India is on 194-2 after the first day. (Reuters)

Worst-Paid Player
Stops Italy's Elite
In France, A Pair of Underdogs
Battles Though to the Cup Final

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

Massimiliano Caniato, the lowest paid player in Italy's Serie A, shut out Parma on Sunday as Udinese added a 2-0 win over the league's second-place club to last week's upset of leader Juventus of Turin.

It was host Parma's fourth loss in 14 games. Juventus, which beat Bologna 1-

EUROPEAN SOCCER

0 on Saturday, holds a six-point lead with six matches left.

Alessandro Pierini scored his first career goal after a defensive lapse by Parma in the 68th minute, and the German international Oliver Bierhoff added Udinese's second goal with a penalty kick in the 87th minute.

Udinese stretched its unbeaten streak to five games and remained in the hunt for a UEFA Cup berth.

In his second appearance of the year, Caniato stymied an inconsistent Parma attack that was missing injured the Italian national team forward Enrico Chiesa. Caniato makes 3 million lire (\$1,770) a month.

Elsewhere, Igor Protti, who had scored just once this season, scored three times in the first half to lead Lazio of Rome past last-place Reggina by 6-1.

AC Milan, the defending champion, drew 0-0 in the rain against visiting Piacenza after Milan's Demetrio Albertini hit the post with a penalty kick. Milan is 10th in the 18-team league.

FRANCE Nice, bottom of the first division, reached the French Cup final Sunday when it beat second division Laval, 1-0.

Thierry de Neef scored for Nice in the 33d minute. Nice will meet Guingamp in the final May 10 in Paris.

Guingamp beat fellow first division team Montpellier 2-0 after extra time in the other semifinal Saturday to reach the

final for the first time.

Nice scored on the break as Laval was claiming a penalty at the other end. Midfielder Neef volleyed Mohammed Chaouch's header past Laval goalkeeper Christophe Gardie for his third goal in the competition.

Guingamp had never before reached the French Cup semifinals. It needed extra time for the third time in five rounds of the French Cup.

Spain Barcelona kept up its challenge for Spain's second European Cup place Sunday as Ronaldo and Abelardo Fernandez scored in a comfortable 2-0 home victory over Athletic Bilbao.

The win put Barcelona one point ahead of Real Betis — 1-0 winners at Tenerife on Saturday — and three ahead of Deportivo La Coruna, which beat Logrones, 2-1.

Deportivo midfielder Rivaldo, continued his fine season with two goals at Logrones, one of them from the penalty spot.

A fine performance by international striker Kiko Narvaez helped troubled champions Atletico Madrid to haul themselves out of rut with a 3-1 victory over fellow UEFA Cup hopeful Valladolid.

Atletico remained fifth in the standings, out of contention for a European Cup place.

SCOTLAND Jorge Cadete scored twice Sunday as Celtic beat Aberdeen, 3-0, to keep alive its slim hope of winning the Scottish championship. The victory leaves Celtic nine points behind Glasgow Rangers with three games remaining.

GERMANY In a weekend of big games, Bayern Munich, the Bundesliga leader, tied 1-1 with reigning champion Borussia Dortmund on Saturday, while Bayer Leverkusen, which is second in the league, won, 2-1, at Stuttgart, which started the weekend in third place.

Paulo Sergio blasted home a rebound



Celtic's Simon Donnelly, left, restraining Aberdeen's Tzanko Tzvetanov in a game Sunday won by Celtic, 3-0.

after 42 minutes to put Leverkusen ahead. Ulf Kirsten increased the lead on a breakaway after 64 minutes. Thomas Berthold scored back for Stuttgart.

Leverkusen closed to within three points of Bayern, while Stuttgart is fourth a point behind Dortmund.

Bayern and Dortmund fought out a highly charged draw. Karlheinz Riedle gave Dortmund the lead in the second minute. Bayern struck back just a minute later when Ruggiero Rizzitelli headed past Stefan Klos.

Dortmund, which needed to win to make up ground on Bayern, attacked

throughout the second half but could not score.

Two Dortmund defenders, Matthias Sammer and Stefan Reuter, failed fitness tests. Coach Ottmar Hitzfeld said Sunday that Sammer would not be fit for Wednesday's European Cup game against Manchester United.

ENGLAND Manchester United moved to within five points of the English premier league title after it won at second-place Liverpool on Saturday. Third-place Arsenal could only tie at home against Blackburn.

United dominated Liverpool, which

defended abysmally and was undermined by another woeful display from its goalkeeper, David James.

All four goals came from headers, with Gary Pallister scoring twice for United and Andy Cole adding another. John Barnes briefly gave Liverpool some hope with a rare header that canceled out Pallister's opener.

James, who nervously came for balls when he should have stayed on his line, and stayed when he should have come out, gave United its third. He missed a cross, allowing Cole an unchallenged header. (AP, Reuters)

Rams Snare 340-Pound Tackle as NFL's No. 1 Draft Pick

By Timothy W. Smith
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Dick Vermeil, the St. Louis Rams' new coach, and Dennis Erickson, Seattle's coach, looked at the National Football League's college draft and saw opportunities.

Other NFL coaches — Bill Parcells, Mike Ditka and Dan Reeves — looked at the pool of players, the talent on their new teams, their drafting positions and decided that quantity was better than quality. They each traded down — from No. 1, 2 and 3 — for additional picks.

How to build a team: quality or quantity? That was the philosophical question Saturday at the theater in Madison Square Garden. The winners will be determined in December.

Vermeil took up Parcells, the Jets' coach, on his offer to unload the No. 1 pick and the Rams used it to select Orlando Pace, the 340-pound (153-kilogram) offensive tackle from Ohio State who is expected to be the cornerstone of the offensive line for the next decade.

Oakland had hankered after Pace and traded with Ditka to get the second pick from the Saints. It used the selection it had received to take Darrell Russell, a 320-pound defensive tackle from the University of Southern California.

Erickson used the No. 3 pick he got from Reeves and the Falcons to select Pace's teammate, cornerback Shawn Springs. Later, Erickson made a trade with Tampa Bay for the No. 6 pick, which the Bucs received in a trade with the Jets. With that selection, the Seahawks drafted offensive tackle Walter Jones of Florida State. Erickson made off with two picks among the first six selections.



Orlando Pace, an offensive tackle at Ohio State and St. Louis' top pick.

The Baltimore Ravens selected one of Jones' teammates, linebacker Peter Boulware, with the No. 4 selection, and the Detroit Lions chose the Texas cornerback Bryant Westbrook at No. 5.

The Giants surprised quite a few of their fans by selecting the wide receiver Ike Hilliard at No. 7. Many people had Yatil Green of Miami and Rae Carruth of Colorado rated higher than Hilliard. Green, a speedster, was selected by the Miami Dolphins at No. 15.

"They looked at a lot of film last week and they came to the conclusion this was the one they had to have," said the Giants' co-owner, Robert Tisch.

Eight of the first 17 players taken were from Florida colleges, including four players from Florida State.

By trading the No. 1 pick overall to

St. Louis, Parcells picked up the Rams' first-round pick (No. 6) and a third-, fourth- and seventh-round selection. Parcells traded the seventh-round pick on Friday to the Eagles for the veteran defensive lineman Ronnie Dixon.

But he was not done. Parcells traded the No. 6 pick to Tampa Bay for the Bucs' No. 8 selection and a fourth-round pick. Parcells did not want to drop any further than that in the first round.

"We had three guys we liked at No. 8," Parcells said. "But if we were moving down to No. 12, we were taking a chance."

With the No. 8 pick, the Jets selected James Farrior, an outside linebacker from Virginia. The first time Farrior spoke with anyone on the Jets was Saturday, when Parcells telephoned him from the Jets' table at the theater.

In the conversation he had with Parcells a couple of weeks ago, Pace said he knew that Parcells was going to trade the selection.

"Coach Parcells was real uncertain about what he was going to do," Pace said. "So, I thought he'd trade the pick."

Pace became the fourth offensive lineman taken No. 1 overall in the 62-year history of the draft; the others were Ki Aldrich in 1939, Chuck Bednarik in 1949 and Ron Yary in 1968. Pace was asked whether his selection as the top pick would change the way that offensive linemen are regarded.

"One thing you may or may not realize is that my whole career has been full of firsts," Pace said. "The first freshman to ever start at Ohio State, the first sophomore to win the Lombardi Trophy. Hopefully, I can continue to do firsts in the NFL and do them for a long time."

For Some College Stars, a Long Wait

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — Quarterback Danny Wuerffel of Florida, the Heisman Trophy winner, was taken by New Orleans in the fourth round of the NFL draft Sunday, the 99th player chosen overall.

Wuerffel was the third quarterback selected. San Francisco took Virginia Tech's Jim Druckenmiller in the first round, and Arizona picked Arizona State's Jake Plummer in the third.

Jake Barnes of California, who was rated ahead of Wuerffel in most scouting lists, went 11 picks after Kansas City picked Wuerffel.

Darnell Autry, the Northwestern running back, will not have to move far. He was drafted Sunday by the Chicago Bears.

There also were two fourth-round-

ers from Cornell — defensive tackle Seth Payne, who went to Jacksonville, and running back Chad Levitt, chosen by Oakland. They were the second and third Ivy Leagueers drafted, as Buffalo had taken Columbia's Marcellus Wiley in the second round.

Bill Walsh, who is a consultant for the San Francisco 49ers, rated Plummer as this draft's top quarterback, and he suggested that he could make another Ivy Montana out of him.

The 49ers however, had rated Plummer third behind Druckenmiller and the California quarterback Pat Barnes, who had remained undrafted after three rounds.

Druckenmiller's draft, in the 26th pick of the first round, made him the first quarterback chosen. (LAT, AP)

in the No. 6 spot, but it did not look like he would fall that far, so they thought about trading up to No. 4. It still did not look possible.

So, Vermeil started thinking that if they moved up to No. 4 and could not get Westbrook, they would take Walter Jones. But with just a little more than what Baltimore was asking for the No. 4 spot, they could move all the way up to No. 1 and take Pace.

"If we're going to take a tackle let's get the best," Vermeil said.

So, they sweetened the offer they had made to Baltimore, shipped it to the Jets and wound up with the No. 1 pick.

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